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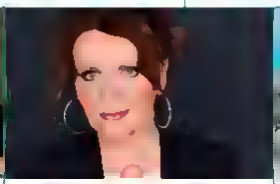

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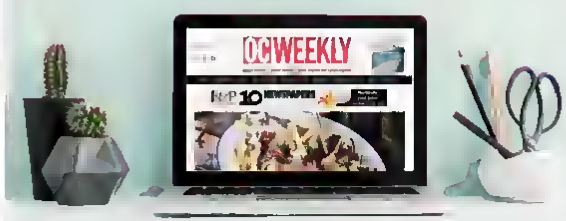

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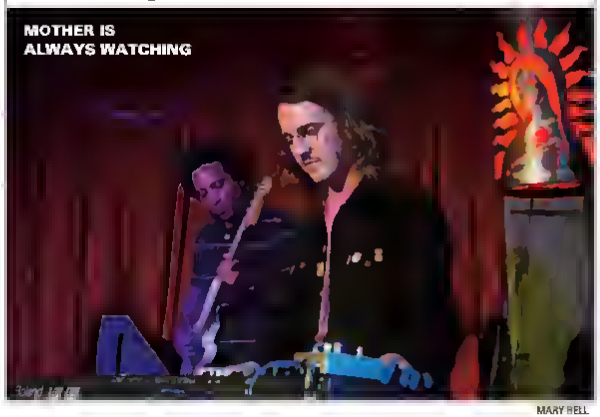

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Photo by Amy Kaplan

Design by Richie Beckman

ORANGE FEATHERS »

OC WEEKLY

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"How dare you degrade the personal dress of the spectators of this event. I'm sure most people think these same things about you, only difference we don't publish these hate statements publicly. OC Weekly editors should be fired for publishing this crap article and the OC Weekly has lost all my respect. Maybe the OC Weekly should STAY in the OC!!!"

—Erik Qumby commenting on "Music Tastes Good 2018 By the Minute Review"
Our response: "Entitled gabachas for the win!"

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Ask Nguyen

The drunk excuse fails if you sexually assault an incapacitated woman

Orange County's Jimmy Nguyen learned the consequences of making a horrible choice with an intoxicated, passed-out teenager after his lawyer exhausted leniency pleas, his younger sister wept in the courtroom and bailiffs ordered him to stand for handcuffing on his way to losing his freedom.

Engaging in sex with a person who didn't give consent is a serious crime. The California Penal Code also discourages such relations with an incapacitated individual. Violating these laws can carry stiff prison penalties, as well as the humiliation of lifetime sex-offender registration.

moxley CONFIDENTIAL

»R. SCOTT MOXLEY

Nguyen, 24, faced that bleak outcome on Oct. 5 inside Superior Court Judge Maria D. Hernandez's eighth-floor Santa Ana courtroom. Three years ago, on a Saturday morning, he felt attracted to a 19-year-old woman whom we'll call Jane Doe as she slept in his bed. The Cal State Fullerton student unfortunately couldn't resist an urge.

The night before, Doe accepted Nguyen's invitation to attend a party. They consumed alcohol from early in the evening to past midnight. Doe—who attended Irvine Valley College—became sick, threw up and asked to be taken home, according to a law-enforcement report.

Nguyen instead drove her to his home and put her in his bed, then both fell asleep inebriated. A groggy Doe awoke at about 6 a.m. because he was kissing her throat, touching her and seeking sex. She says she refused before passing out again.

About 10:30 a.m., Doe opened her eyes and found her bra strap undone, her pants unzipped and her underwear bunched down. Later, during a rape-kit exam, Nguyen's DNA was found on her breast. According to prosecutor Rebecca Reed, Doe confronted her date, and he replied he "couldn't help himself." He admitted he'd done "hand stuff" to her body while masturbating.

Doe went to the Placentia Police Department, where detectives got her to call Nguyen without him knowing they were recording the conversation. He blamed alcohol for his conduct and conceded he found her irresistible. In June, a jury issued two guilty sexual-assault felony verdicts.

Reed read aloud the victim's-impact statement at the recent sentencing hearing. In it, Doe described herself prior to the assault as a person with "so many goals and dreams," but "what he selfishly did to me" resulted in her turning into a "shell of a person." She became paranoid, couldn't sleep well for months and felt self-doubt. She also withdrew from family and friends, suffered cycles of enrolling and dropping out of college, and even moved away from Orange County for a while to feel a sense of safety.

"Sexual violence is a heinous crime," wrote Doe, who asked for the imposition of the maximum available punishment and dismissed Nguyen's use of alcohol as an excuse. "He saw an opportunity and took advantage of me."

Nguyen looked genuinely shaken by the remarks, but Ricardo Nicol, his attorney, refused to let him speak, saying the defendant had expressed remorse from the outset. "Jimmy really did make a big mistake, but alcohol played a huge part," Nicol told the judge.

According to the lawyer, Nguyen wanted to plead guilty, but he advised otherwise, believing he "had a shot" at convincing a jury there was reasonable doubt. "I don't believe everything she was saying," Nicol explained. "I didn't believe [she was unconscious] … [Nguyen] was accepting responsibility for more than what he did that night. … This should have been charged as a misdemeanor."

Nicol also attacked Doe's cries of trauma, calling them "more of a novel than a work of non-fiction." He noted she is highly educated, grew up in a "privileged" family and became "a lot more resilient than her statement reflects." To bolster his contention, he pointed out that Doe failed to mention a single trip to a therapist and that her social-media accounts show a person living a "very full, normal, active life."

After a prehearing powwow in the judge's chambers, Nicol understood he wouldn't win probation for Nguyen, so he asked for a 50 percent reduction in the anticipated punishment. He argued, "Fairness just doesn't justify more than six months [in custody]."

Hernandez stated she hopes young adults will learn from this "tragic" incident. Though the judge saw Nguyen as "very remorseful" and "not a predator," she observed he'd taken advantage of a "vulnerable" person. "This case could be a prison case in the blink of an eye," she said. "I do believe [Doe] is going through a traumatic experience."

But instead of sending Nguyen to a penitentiary hellhole for "many years," Hernandez punished him with a term of 365 days in the Orange County Jail, required lifetime sexual-offender registration and issued a 10-year restraining order to stay away from Doe. Nguyen will also undergo five years of supervised probation, a period when cops can stop and search him on whim. If he violates the conditions of his release, he will go to prison, the judge said.

RSCOTTMOXLEY@OCWEEKLY.COM

POLITICAL FOOTBALL
» STEVE LOWERY

Arizona Cardinals vs. Minnesota Vikings

Arizona update: It would be so easy to call Arizona Senator Jeff Flake a spineless pile of grandstanding fluff, so let's start there. Flake is the Republican senator who looks like the Republican senator on some TV show about Washington that needs to have a "good Republican" so the show doesn't appear too, you know, real. And Flake plays the part, getting so outraged each day when his party's President says whatever stupid, hateful and insulting thing he says that day about immigrants or the *Roseanne* reboot, that sometimes he even appears to tear up. He went with that look while acting outraged about the numerous charges of lying and sexual assault and lying about sexual assault leveled at Supreme Court nominee and proud virgin Brett Kavanaugh. Flake even called for an FBI investigation of Kavanaugh, though not for a very good one. Soon enough, Flake was voting to confirm Kavanaugh having experienced what his hometown paper, well-acquainted with his showboating, called a "momentary lapse of independence."

Minnesota update: Even a wonderful state with wonderful people like Minnesota—the Canada of the United States—has its problems. Al Franken was a senator from the state until stones emerged of his sexual misconduct causing him to resign. One of his fellow senators urging him to do just that was Susan Collins of Maine, the same Susan Collins who seemed equally disturbed by the actions of Brett Kavanaugh. Collins eventually voted to confirm Kavanaugh, which seems in complete disagreement with her Franken stand until you consider that she was acting out of a very subtle point of law being that Franken is a Democrat and Kavanaugh is a Republican and Collins, like Flake, is an independent Republican—the "independent" meaning that every now and then, she might say the NRA might want to reconsider arming preschoolers … after she cashes the check.

Root for: Minnesota. Democracy is a hell of a thing, kids. A lot of sound and fury, and then you end up with a man accused of multiple instances of assaults against women and their bodies named to the highest court for the rest of his life where he will rule on all matters having to do with women and their bodies. Of course, we already have a good idea what Kavanaugh thinks regarding women's bodies—mainly, that they should just stop struggling.

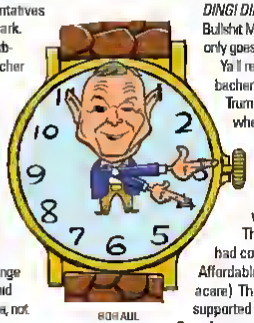
LETTERS@OCWEEKLY.COM

The Russia Thing

» MATT COKER

Representative Dana Rohrabacher (R-Putin's Lip Balm) has routinely and frequently said voters in his 48th Congressional District do not care about his close ties to Russia's brutal regime.

However, two things happened on the same October day that reflect the actual toll the Russia thing is having on Rohrabacher's attempt to extend his House of Representatives career beyond the 30-year mark.



BOB AUL

A *Los Angeles Times* poll published on Oct. 4 found Rohrabacher in a statistical dead heat with Democrat Harley Rouda. That is a first for the incumbent, who has never been in a congressional race this close with less than a month before Election Day.

Former Vice President Joe Biden, speaking that afternoon at Cal State Fullerton on behalf of four Democrats seeking Orange County congressional seats, said Rouda is "a fighter for California, not an apologist for the Kremlin."

By then, Rohrabacher's constituents had been hammered with a progressive political-action committee's clever advertisements, which "thanked" the "comrade" for his longtime support of Mother Russia. One set was broadcast in English, the other in Russian, and both shared Soviet-style propaganda artwork.

Rohrabacher's latest campaign ads show the Russia thing is actually getting to him. As he stands next to his wife with their daughter sitting in a swing, Rohrabacher says, "Politicians argue a lot about health care, but for me, it's personal. When my daughter Annika was 8 years old, she was afflicted with leukemia. It was devastating to my family, but we got through it—and today she's doing great."

He adds, "So for her and all our families, we must protect America's health-care system. That's why I'm taking on both parties and fighting for those with pre-existing conditions."

DING! DING! DING! That's the Total Bullshit Meter hitting 11 even though it only goes up to 10.

Ya'll remember shortly after Rohrabacher's other man crush, Donald Trump, was elected president, when the congressman over and over again refused to meet his own constituents, many of whom have pre-existing medical conditions, over his votes on health care?

Their elected representative had consistently voted against the Affordable Care Act (a.k.a. Obamacare). Then, in 2017, Rohrabacher supported the GOP's American Health Care Act, even though the independent Congressional Budget Office warned it would result in 23 million Americans losing health-care coverage while also undermining protections for those with pre-existing conditions.

Using your little girl as a prop while you act as if you care about an issue you wouldn't even talk with your own constituents about should not play well at home, but they'll love it in Moscow.

Got Dana Watch fodder? Email mcoker@ocweekly.com.

HeyYou!

» ANONYMOUS

Puppy Love

You were the male oaf with an East Coast accent at Costa Mesa Bark Park's space for small dogs with a large, playfully aggressive pit bull puppy that took a liking to my two small dogs. I soon realized your dogs' behavior was more than my little dogs could handle. I scooped them up and headed for the exit, but your non-neutered, horny little boy kept lunging up my side at my dogs, and he forcefully humped my leg. I tried some verbal commands, all of which your dog ignored. I held the dog at bay with my foot, but I couldn't walk to the exit, as the pup was up on me as soon as I moved.

It's too bad you were busy smoking cigarettes on the other side of the park with your buddy and couldn't call your dog off me. A kind lady finally pulled the pup away so I could leave. When you finally realized what was going on, you stepped over to the exit. And when I told you the dog was too big for the park, you gave me some bullshit: "This is a puppy park, and this is my puppy being a puppy." Normally, I'd stop and explain the dog park rules to a dumb fuck like you, but all I could sense getting would be into an altercation, so I split.

BOB AUL

In case you know how to read and see this and want to stop contributing to giving pit bulls a bad name, dig this: It's not a "puppy park." It's a park for dogs who weigh less than 30 pounds, as well as some disabled or elderly dogs. And it's a smoke-free park.

HEY, YOU! Send anonymous thanks, confessions or accusations—changing or deleting the names of the guilty and innocent—to "Hey, You!" c/o *OC Weekly*, 18475 Bandilier Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708, or email us at letters@ocweekly.com.

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#HimToo?

Santa Ana City Council candidate Phil Bacerra's campaign is rocked by ex-girlfriend's allegations of domestic violence

BY GABRIEL SAN ROMÁN

BACERRA DENIES IT ALL

COURTESY OF PHILBACERRA.COM

A few months ago, Griselda Govea drove down a residential street in Santa Ana when something came into view that sent a chill down her spine. A purple "Phil Bacerra for City Council" sign firmly planted on a resident's lawn triggered a flood of memories, none of them good. "Did I just see that this man is running?" Govea asked a friend. "The same guy that used to throw me around, that spit in my face and literally kicked dirt in my eyes?"

Having just moved back to the city, Govea, a 39-year-old hairdresser, now faced a dilemma. She wrestled with coming forward about her off-and-no relationship with Bacerra that ended years ago, one that she alleges turned verbally, mentally and physically abusive. "I started thinking more and watching everything that's happening in the news," Govea says. "I prayed a lot about it, asking God how I should approach this."

Long before Bacerra became a candidate for City Council in Ward 4, he and Govea met online in 2007. Although she claims he would occasionally be verbally abusive, nothing prepared her for an alleged physical assault that occurred about a year into the relationship. According to Govea, she had gone to bed one night after Bacerra had had too much to drink. "What happened next was me being woken up by my bra strap," she says. "He pulled me up and threw me against the wall. When I tried to get up, he grabbed me again and threw me down on the floor."

On another occasion, Govea and Bacerra walked back to their car after watching a USC football game. She claims he had been drinking and needed help keeping himself upright. But then both took a tumble to the ground. "He got up and kicked dirt in my face," she says, her voice tinged with emotion. "I was surrounded by all these people, and this just happened."

As Govea recounts, the last straw in the tumultuous relationship came after coming home from a Pride event in 2010. She says she looked out over the balcony of Bacerra's apartment, witnessed a truck slam into a palm tree off Broadway in Santa Ana and rushed downstairs to help out. Police arrived, and she offered translating services for the men hurt in the crash until authorities told her to go back inside. Bacerra allegedly accosted her for doing so, telling her to head back outside. And when she didn't listen to him, things turned ugly.

"I'm going to the restroom, and he grabs me from the arm and said, 'You're a worthless cunt' and spat in my face," she recalls. "He started laughing, and I just went into the restroom. I left, disappointed in myself." Govea says the two parted ways for good in 2011.

After speaking with the *Weekly*, Govea made the same allegations of abuse in a social media post on Oct. 3.

Bacerra declared Govea's allegations of domestic violence against him to be false in a statement he released Oct. 4. "While our relationship was unhealthy, I was never physically abusive," Bacerra wrote. "I have never in my life laid my hand on a woman in violence. I was far from the perfect boyfriend, and I regret and apologize for the harsh words said during emotionally charged arguments."

Jovanie Lopez lived with his now-wife at the Victorian, double-level apartment on Broadway across the way from Bacerra's old unit, where a USC flag proudly hung. He recalls hearing those heated shouting matches between Govea and Bacerra through the walls in the middle of the night. "It was almost like I knew that Griselda was there because there would be an argument," Lopez says. "Those instances became more frequent as time went on. ... We did feel that there needed to be intervention on Griselda's side."

Toward the end of their relationship, Govea charged Bacerra with abusing her in email exchanges she shared with the *Weekly*. "You not only insulted me, lied to me, laid your hands on me, but you also spat on me," Govea wrote to Bacerra on April 25, 2010.

She made similar claims a few months later. "You should've stopped being an option to me the first time you mistreated me and especially the first time you laid a hand on me," Govea wrote Bacerra on Nov. 10, 2010.

In Bacerra's public statement, he noted a willingness to share his own personal emails from that time to show that allegations made against him mischaracterize his past relationship, but he declined to provide them to the *Weekly*.

After Govea posted on social media, Bacerra's endorsements began getting a second look from the Democratic Party of Orange County (DPOC) and are being revoked elsewhere. "The endorsement vote for the City Council race in Santa Ana, District 4, at the end of August was unrelated to this new allegation," Fran Sdao, chairwoman of the DPOC, wrote to the *Weekly*. "The Democratic Party of Orange County intends to review the information that has recently come forward. We do not have any further information available at this time."

Bacerra had also gained the endorsement of the Orange County Young Democrats (OCYD) in September, but the organization released a statement after the allegations publicly surfaced. "In light of recent revelations, the Orange County Young Democrats Executive Board has voted to revoke our endorsement of Phil Bacerra for Santa Ana City Council, Ward 4," it reads.

Santa Ana City Councilman Jose Solorio also publicly indicated on social media that he withheld making an endorsement in the race, but after Govea's allegations, he'll be backing Bacerra's Democratic opponent Roman Reyna.

It remains to be seen what the powerful Santa Ana Police Officers Association does with its endorsement of Bacerra going forward.

Govea, who recently celebrated her third wedding anniversary, says she began therapy sessions after seeing Bacerra's campaign signs. Alongside a supportive husband, Govea relies on her faith in God, which, she says, helped with her decision to come forward publicly with her story, one that she ultimately couldn't bear to keep buried anymore.

"As residents of Santa Ana, we need to start holding ourselves accountable for who we're putting in power," Govea says. "I'll be damned if I don't say anything. I'll be damned if I just sit back and watch it all unfold."

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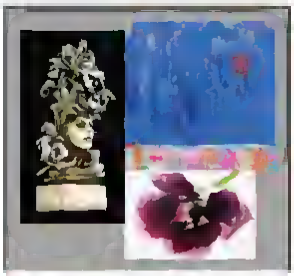

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Superfly

MMA FLYWEIGHT ASHLEE EVANS-SMITH IS AN UNDERDOG NO MORE

BY JOSH CHESLER

AMY KAPLAN

For Ashlee Evans-Smith, being an underdog in fights is a way of life

Growing up in a small town in Northern California in the '90s, the current UFC flyweight often found herself fighting her one-year-younger brother regardless of size difference. During her sophomore year of high school, Evans-South joined the boys' wrestling team (despite having rarely played an organized sport in her life) simply because someone had told her that girls couldn't wrestle; she became a state champion.

Toward the end of her high school run, the 5-foot-8 brunette almost lost her spot on the Menlo College wrestling team when her punk-rock-loving "Rebel Girl" attitude landed her in legal trouble thanks to an assault charge. Knowing she might not get another chance to leave her quaint hometown of Ukiah, Evans-Smith turned her energy, stubbornness and aggression into four years of all-American honors and a journalism degree before running into the same wall that so many collegiate wrestlers hit. After graduation, there just wasn't much of a career path for a female wrestler in 2009. At that time, Ronda Rousey hadn't yet made her amateur mixed-martial-arts debut, and the fight between Cris "Cyborg" and Gina Carano that put women's MMA on the map was only just occurring.

Evans-Smith vividly recalls hearing UFC President Dana White say back in January 2011 that women would never fight in his company. But a chance meeting with MMA forefather Eugene Jackson while working as a bartender started her down a career path she couldn't have envisioned a decade before. "[Jackson] was just very forward, like, 'Oh, you look like a strong girl'—and I think I had a wrestling T-shirt on, so he asked if my boyfriend wrestles," Evans-Smith says, the shaved side of her head and growing tattoo collection only drawing a handful of eyes in Santa Ana's 4th Street Market. "He had just opened a very new mixed-martial-arts academy in East Palo Alto, and I ended up getting very close with him and his family. He trained me for a little under a year, and I took a bunch of amateur fights up in Northern California and just fell in love with it."

Having sharpened her skills against the toughest competition she could find in Northern California, and despite knowing only one person in all of Southern California (former UFC strawweight champion and collegiate teammate Carla Esparza), Evans-Smith decided to move to Orange County because it was home to some of the best MMA gyms, trainers and fighters in the world. She stayed with a generous teammate for a couple of months until she could find a job and earn enough money to pay rent in addition to her training costs.

Once Evans-Smith had settled into her new gym at Subfighter MMA in Laguna Hills, it didn't take long for her to move into the MMA spotlight. With her first professional bout landing in the opening round of a featherweight (145-pound) tournament for the Miami-based Championship Fighting Alliance in March 2013, her unanimous-decision victory over a woman she'd lost to as an amateur pushed the young fighter into the championship match after her opponent in the semifinals fell through.

But before Evans-Smith could step into the cage again, the buzz surrounding her next fight had already taken an unusual turn. Just a few days after the opening round of the tournament, the woman Evans-Smith would later meet in the finals, Fallon Fox, came out as transgender. Partially because of the brutal knockouts Fox delivered in her previous fights, much of the MMA world began to question whether a competitor who wasn't born as a biological woman should be able to compete against other women. Though she was seen as a huge underdog, Evans-Smith could not find a reason to not accept the bout against Fox. "There was a halt to the tournament because the news [of Fox being transgender] came out, so I was waiting around for a long time," Evans-Smith says. "It's not what I signed up to do, but it was the best thing I ever could've asked for. I weighed my pros and cons and felt like it was a win-win for me. It was scary because she was hurting people. Not only was she knocking out people, but she was putting them in the hospital in ways that other women didn't do to one another. In my mind, I was thinking the worst thing that could happen was that I'd get knocked out, but I'd already been knocked out in my amateur career before."

During the surrounding circus leading up to the bout, Evans-Smith steered clear of the significant trash-talking much of the MMA community was dishing toward Fox. The LGBT ally wanted to show her sportsmanship and respect for her opponent, and she did her best to give a scientific and politically correct answer when directly asked about whether transgender women should be allowed to compete against other women. But saying that she believed there wasn't enough scientific testing to know whether or not Fox had an unfair biological advantage over her competitors landed her in clickbait headlines throughout the MMA world, and being labeled as transphobic didn't sit well with the genuinely friendly Evans-Smith. "I thought to myself that it was a good answer and not like some bigot, but I got scrutinized for it a lot," Evans-Smith says. "I know I should have thick skin about it after all these years, but I don't because I'm *really* not like that. Now, I don't let the trolls bother me, but at the time, I didn't have as thick of a skin, social media-wise, as I do now."

Although the buildup to the fight would've been enough for many MMA fans to remember Evans-Smith's name, the match itself played out in a bizarre fashion. After nearly getting knocked out in the first round, the wrestler bounced back in the second and found herself in the mount position throwing fist after fist at Fox's face until the referee intervened to end the fight by technical knockout. While embracing her coach in a tearful celebration, Evans-Smith was pulled away by the same referee, who then explained that the stoppage had actually come just seconds after he apparently didn't hear the bell signaling the end of the round—meaning the fight wasn't officially over, so they'd be going into a third round.

"I legitimately thought I won, and at

first, I felt dumb, like, 'Wait, am I the only one who thought I won?'" Evans-Smith says with a laugh. "I was all emotional, and you could see it on my face that I didn't want to go another round, but my coach, Adam [Lynn of Subfighter], said the best thing between the second and third rounds. That's when you know you have a good coach because you only have a couple of seconds to get some words of encouragement or technical advice, and it can make or break your mentality for the whole round. He looked at me and said, 'Hey, you just beat her. Let's beat her again.'"

And that's exactly what Evans-Smith did. Picking up where she left off, Evans-Smith used her wrestling skills to bring Fox to the ground once again and landed punches until the ref jumped in—this time before the end of the round.

Thanks to the controversy surrounding Fox and the $20,000 prize (presented live on AXS TV in the form of a giant *Happy Gilmore*-style check to a sobbing Evans-Smith), the tournament gave Evans-Smith the boost in recognition she needed to take her career to the next level. After dropping down to bantamweight (135 pounds) and picking up another knockout victory in the World Series of Fighting, the up-and-coming prospect got the call she'd previously thought was impossible.

"Are you really going to tell the UFC, 'No'?" Lynn once asked Evans-Smith when she was unsure of whether to accept a short-notice offer to debut in the largest MMA promotion in the world.

"When I got that call, I was really overweight. I'd like to say I'm one of those fighters who's always in shape, but I like the whole balance thing," Evans-Smith says. "I train my butt off, and then I can have fun, relax, chill and do it all over again. World Series of Fighting told me I wouldn't be fighting for, like, another two months, so I was still training, but I was also on the couch eating pizza.

"I'm grateful that I got into the UFC when I did, though, because now that it's gotten so much bigger, they want, like, a 10-0 record with great marketability and a crazy backstory and all that," Evans-Smith continues. "I had three fights at the time. I have a certain look—I don't know if everyone likes it, but it's a look—and they needed someone who they knew would be down to fight. After the [Fox] fight, I think they knew I was down."

But filling in as a last-minute replacement against recent UFC bantamweight challenger Raquel Pennington proved a bit too much for Evans-Smith. "Rebel Girl" did her best to get back into fighting shape and put together a game plan, but Pennington muscled through Evans-Smith, eventually choking her unconscious at the end of the first round. "I made the decision in my mind that I was either going out or was going to fight it," Evans-Smith says. "She sank the choke in, and then I heard the [10-second warning for the end of the round]. I was like, 'I got this! I've held this choke for way longer! My teammate is way stronger with this!' and then [*snores*]. I don't regret that decision at all. Every fighter has to make in-the-moment decisions, and it's really important because sometimes when you make the wrong decision, it can cost you the fight."

While some fighters might become discouraged by their first professional loss landing them on their opponent's highlight reel, Evans-Smith saw it as an opportunity to show everyone that she could overcome adversity with the best of them.

Despite not competing in 2015 because she tested positive for a diuretic after the Pennington fight, Evans-Smith bounced back in 2016, earning two wins in the UFC. Not wanting to get complacent, the hungry fighter opted to experiment with some other gyms and coaches around Orange County—including a stint alongside Esparza at Irvine's Team Oyama—but ended up dropping a pair of fights, the latter of which ended with a dislocated elbow and another role in her opponent's highlight reel.

While healing the first injury of her MMA career, Evans-Smith began to con-

» CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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» FROM PAGE 11

template moving into the UFC's newly created women's flyweight (125-pound) division. As someooe who'd wrestled and fought most of her life at 145 pounds, making the flyweight limit seemed almost laughable, but a dietary switch from vegetarianism to veganism—as well as some improved eating habits overall—and it no longer seemed so daunting a task.

By the time she stepped into the octagon across from veteran Bec Rawlings at the UFC 223 event in April, the revamped Evans-Smith held such a power advantage that she easily handled the 115-pound Australian. The size and strength difference between the two was so prominent that commentator Joe Rogan couldn't stop talking about it during the fight.

"In my last fight, I swear to god that Joe Rogan said stuff like 'Ashlee Evans-Smith is a *big* woman!' 17 times," Evans-Smith says with a laugh. "I'm listening to it like, 'If you call me a big woman one more time, Joe ' And then [fellow commentators Jimmy Smith and Jon Anik] are like, 'Yes, she is, Joe!' It's not what a chick wants to be told, but as a fighter, it's fine It's nice to be bigger, and you definitely don't want to be one of the smaller ones "

MMA fans may have noticed something else different about Evans-Smith in her bout against Rawlings For the first time in her career, she decided to go through the entire training camp and fight without a head coach. Instead of sticking with ooe gym, Evans-South took the uncommon route of splitting time among a few trainers, most notably the respected Black House facility that spread to SoCal from Brazil.

As if the weight cut and lack of head coach weren't enough, Evans-Smith also found herself in a situation she'd done her best to avoid leading up to the Rawlings fight. a little old-fashioned trash talking. Even when she tore into Rawlings for being "raunchy" and "embarrassing" ahead of their fight, Evans-Smith made sure to not use any choice words she wouldn't want a young fan hearing. After all, it doesn't feel like that long ago that the 31-year-old was a hit of a contentious kid herself, and she knows it was ultimately wrestling that kept her out of trouble. With that in mind, Evans-Smith is committed to being a role model for all of the girls (and boys) who strive to compete like her one day

"I feel fortunate that I get to be m the budding stages of women's mixed martial arts, so I take my role as a public figure and a role model very seriously," Evans-Smith says. "I'm no angel, but I try not to have a lot of scandalous or vulgar things on my social media. I try to be a good sport and not trash talk because sportsmanship is really important to me "

As for the future, Evans-Smith is set to square off against renowned striker Antonina Shevchenko—who also happens to be the older sister of top-ranked flyweight and expected champion Valentina Shevchenko—on Nov 30 in Las Vegas As excited as she is to finally be on a card within driving distance of her family and friends, the powerful grappler in her is even more stoked to make a statement with her wrestling, just like in the old days.

"I think it's a really good matchup for me because I don't know what this girl's wrestling is going to be like," Evans-Smith says "In my last couple of fights, I've done a lot of striking. I basically fell out of love with grappling and in love with striking, but I'm going to have to rekindle my love for grappling. I don't know how the fight's going to go, and she doesn't know how the fight's going to go. Maybe I go in there and end up striking with her the whole time. Ideally, I think that my grappling is going to give me a big upper hand in this fight. Everyone seems to think that I'm going to have my hands full with this fight because she's Valentina's sister, but that's just it: She's a worthy opponent, but she's not Valentina, she's her sister "

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COURTESY OF NITRO CIRCUS

fri/10/12

[AMUSEMENT PARK]

FRIGHT NIGHT! Sinister Pointe's Scary Place

Terror awaits you at Laguna Hills' Sinister Pointe, a nightmarish amusement park started by horror maestro and scare-engineer Jeff Schiefelbein in 2006 to trademark his frightful attractions for all to see and enjoy. This year, he and his team up the ante with Scary Place, three floors of terrifying shows, mazes and scream zones that will make you fear the dark. The "Phobias" attraction pits you against some of your biggest fears, while "Evil on 2" transports you to a haunted hotel maze to uncover the unholy presence within. The "Boogeyman Express" takes you on a demented ride with the boogeyman and his deadly minions. Beware the Scream Zones in between floors, and check out the strange stage entertainment that could only ever exist in a diabolical place such as this!

Sinister Pointe's Scary Place at Laguna Hills Mall, 24100 Laguna Hills Mall, Laguna Hills; www.sinisterpointe.com. 7 p.m. Through Oct. 31. $54. —AIMEE MURILLO

[PERFORMING ARTS]

All Fangs on Deck

Vampirates!

The swashbuckling outlaws of the ocean seas have just one more enemy to deal with: blood-sucking, pillaging creatures of the night! This season's Pirates Dinner Adventure pits an intrepid buccaneer against Captain Sebastian the Black's undead crew. Will the buccaneer prevail, or will the "vampirates" defeat him and turn the waters of the ocean red with the blood of their human prey? Who knows! This interactive, family-friendly adventure is filled with extreme sword fighting, stunning aerial stunts and acrobatics, and tense duels to send shivers up ye' timbers! Enjoy the show, as well as a four-course feast you'll love at first bite!

MORE ONLINE
OCWEEKLY.COM

Vampirates! at Pirates Dinner Adventure, 7600 Beach Blvd., Buena Park, (714) 690-1497; piratesdinneradventureca.com/vampirates. 7 p.m. Through Oct. 31. $36.95-$61.95, children 2 and younger, free. —AIMEE MURILLO

sat/10/13

[SPORTS]

DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME! Nitro Circus

The 2018 You Got This Tour operates on the wholesome premise of facing new challenges with moxie and bravery ... especially if you've got several tons of octane and steel propelling you to face them! Motocross legend Travis Pastrana has engineered an insane lineup of stunts for his fellow riders and daredevils to perform, which lesser—or more sane—riders would fear to tread. But as Pastrana has demonstrated during past Nitro Circus events, you've got to have a good balance of skill and crazy to bust through these brand-new, dastardly obstacles and ramps. Watch this talented, insane pack of BMX, FMX and other riders compete to see how they fare—and what other sort of unpredictability will take place!

Nitro Circus at Honda Center, 2695 E. Katella Ave., Anaheim, (714) 704-2400, www.hondacenter.com. 7:30 p.m. $43-$103. —AIMEE MURILLO

[EVENTS]

Skeletal Queens

Catrina Contest

The painted sugar-skull art that usually appears during *Día de los Muertos* inspires plenty of awe and admiration, but not as much as the sugar-skull face paint of the Catrina, the feminine skeletal figure originally painted by Mexican illustrator José Guadalupe Posada. Dressed in decadent turn-of-the-20th-century dress, the main icon in religious *Día de los Muertos* events blesses sacred altars to the deceased. Preregistered contestants of today's Catrina contest will be vying for the opportunity to represent the revered figure at Santa Ana's El Centro Cultural de México's *Noche de Altares* happening at the start of November. While by press time it'll be too late to sign up and compete yourself, check out the amazing Catrinas up for the honor, drumming up excitement for festivities to come!

Catrina Contest at El Centro Cultural de México, 837 N. Ross St., Santa Ana; www.facebook.com/ElCentroCultural. 4 p.m. Free. —AIMEE MURILLO

sun/10/14

[CONCERT]

Let's Rock

Jack FM's 13th Show

The all-star Jack FM show once again graces the stage in Irvine, but this year at FivePoint Amphitheatre instead of its previous home at the now-defunct Irvine Meadows. The lineup features a neat mix of bands who would generally never tour together—after all, where else would you see 311, Third Eye Blind, Stone Temple Pilots, Neon Trees, Everclear and Alien Ant Farm on the same bill? Neon Trees withstanding, this is a nice festival of rock bands from the late '90s, probably the genre's last stand. Let loose for one last rockin' good time outdoors this year.

Jack FM's 13th Show at FivePoint Amphitheatre, 14800 Chinon, Irvine, (949) 988-6800, www.fivepointamphitheatre.com. 5 p.m. $30. —WYOMING REYNOLDS

[BURLESQUE]

Strip-or-Treat!

MUSE Burlesque: Halloween Edition

As if the pageantry of a burlesque show is not colorful enough at any given MUSE show, get ready for the Halloween edition! For those who enjoy cabarets of music, comedy, and flesh, flesh and more flesh, book yourself a seat (or a whole table) from which you can view the Ammie Cherry Bombs, April Showers, Sheila Starr Siani, Lux La Croix and MANY others, as they put on a Halloween show that will surely affect your dreams (nightmares need not apply). Get there early for the preshow entertainment, and stay for the costume contest and prizes! No tricks at this show—only treats!

MUSE Burlesque: Halloween Edition at the Copper Door, 225 N. Broadway, Santa Ana, (714) 696-1479, www.museburlesque.com. 7 p.m. $15-$80. —SCOTT FEINBLATT

mon/10/15

[SCIENCE]

Think and Drink!

Science on Tap

Health and general quality of life highly depend on what ZIP code you were born into and/or live in, and the studies around the discrepancy of healthy citizens living in a given community is a growing field within city planning. Whether you are new to this topic or want to immerse yourself further, Dr. Georgiana Bostean will help you understand the latest developments in her talk, "A Tale of Two Cities: How Space and Place Affect Your Health." This discussion engages both science-lovers and newbies and even has the enticing element of beer!

Science on Tap at Chapman Crafted Beer, 123 N. Chapman Ave., Orange, (844) 855-2337, events.chapman.edu. 6 p.m. Free; beer and snacks available for purchase. —HEATHER MCCOY

tue/10/16

[ART]

Smart Noise

'Music Into Data::Data Into Music'

R. Luke DuBois can take anything down to its component pixels and remake it as art—or, more correctly, he can set up the parameters that let the art make itself. In his "Music Into Data::Data Into Music," he collects projects that explore how raw numbers can be re-interpreted in complex new ways that organize noise (statistical or otherwise) into art and music. It's a new way of listening that could ignite new ways of thinking.

"Music Into Data::Data Into Music" at Beall Center for Art + Technology, 712 Arts Plaza, Irvine, (949) 824-6206, bealLcenter.uci.edu. Noon. Through Feb. 2, 2019. Free. —CHRIS ZIEGLER

wed/10/17

[THEATER]

BLAME YOUR PARENTS

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

The winningly titled, Tony Award-winning 2012 Christopher Durang play about grown-up loser siblings in rural Pennsylvania might cause expecting parents to reconsider naming their kids after their own heroes. Or maybe not. *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, the very loosely—if hilariously and darkly—constructed mash-up of canonical Chekhovian tropes, scenes and characters celebrates, even perversely esteems, self-delusion, self-pity and familial fatalism. Committed theater folk will recognize the types, but the entire South Coast Rep audience will laugh, cringe and finally empathize with the orphaned adults whose Chekhov-loving parents left them the tiniest cherry orchard ever, as well as all the angst they can (and do) handle.

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike at South Coast Repertory, 655 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 708-5555, www.scr.org. 7:45 p.m. Through Oct. 21. $20-$63. —ANDREW TONKOVICH

[HEALTH & FITNESS]

Ride Along

Bikes & Brews

Of all the fitness-and-booze events you can try, a bicycling and beer event seems like the one most worth your time. Bicycling can boost your quality of life by relieving stress, allowing fresh air, burning calories, building muscle mass, improving joints and bones, and helping your coordination. At today's Bikes & Brews, you can join in a communal ride by meeting up at Troy Lee Designs in Laguna Beach, then trekking along a low-impact road. The route will eventually take you to Laguna Beach Beer Co., where riders can imbibe, decompress and socialize with one another over beers or menu items available at a special price for participants.

Bikes & Brews at Troy Lee Designs, 380 Glenneyre St., Laguna Beach, (949) 715-8142, www.facebook.com/tldbike. 6 p.m. Free; beer and food items available for purchase. —AIMEE MURILLO

thu/10/18

[FILM]

Divine Diva

The Blue Angel

Director Josef von Sternberg's classic of German cinema catapulted 29-year-old Marlene Dietrich to international fame in 1930. As cabaret singer Lola Lola, Dietrich croons what would become her signature song, "Falling In Love Again," and cavorts across the stage and screen on legs that were rumored to be insured for $1 million—and they look it. An early depiction of the femme fatale who ruins men's lives with her sex (go, girl), *The Blue Angel* established the enigmatic Dietrich as one of Hollywood's greatest imports and launched a five-year collaboration with von Sternberg that would result in some of cinema's finest works, including *Morocco* (1930) and *Shanghai Express* (1932)—both nominated for Best Director Oscars—and the stylish melodrama, *Blonde Venus* (1932). Artist Sandra Jones Campbell, who paints in the German Expressionist style, introduces the film.

MORE ONLINE
OCWEEKLY.COM

The Blue Angel at Laguna Art Museum, 307 Cliff Dr., Laguna Beach, (949) 494-8971, www.lagunaartmuseum.org. 7 p.m. Free with museum admission ($5-$7). —SR DAVIES

[CLASSES]

Magic's In the Makeup

Casa Up Close: Cinema Makeup School

Gone are the days when movie-obsessed kiddos could find helpful guides for transforming themselves into fanged monsters or ghastly ghouls in their favorite horror-film magazines. Where's a creative person left to look nowadays? One could head to YouTube and check out some extensive online tutorials, but the folks at Casa Romantica are one step ahead, bringing the tutorial to you! At tonight's event, the next generation of makeup artists from Cinema Makeup School (CMS) offer demonstrations on how to transform yourself (or someone else) with makeup and prosthetics. Many of CMS's graduates have gone on to work in film, television and the fashion industry, so come get their help in shape shifting so you can make this year's Halloween-esque celebrations the best ever!

Casa Up Close: Cinema Makeup School at Casa Romantica, 415 Avenida Granada, San Clemente, (949) 498-2139; www.casaromantica.org. 7 p.m. $10-$12
—AIMEE MURILLO

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10/11 An Evening With CITIZEN COPE
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10/13 THE BABYS
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10/21 DECEMBER 63 (Frankie Valli Tribute)
10/25 TAB BENOIT
10/26 FIVE FOR FIGHTING
10/27 BEE GEES GOLD The Tribute
10/28 COMEDY NIGHT w/ Doug Stanks
10/31 OINGO BOINGO DANCE PARTY
11/2 DAVID BRIGHTON'S SPACE DDDITY
11/3 AMBRDSIA
11/7 WILLIE K / ERIC SARDINAS
11/9 AMERICA
11/10 AMERICA
11/11 RICKIE LEE JONES / Alfred Jonnson
11/14 THE WIND AND THE WAVE
11/15 THE KINGSTON TRIO
11/16 JOHN MAYALL
11/17 An Evening with RICHIE FURAY
11/18 MICHAEL TOMLINSON
11/20 An Unpredictable Evening with TODD RUNDGREN
11/21 An Unpredictable Evening with TODD RUNDGREN
11/23 LA GUNS
11/24 SIMPLE MAN (Lynyrd Skynyrd Tribute)
11/29 BAND OF FRIENDS (A Celebration of RORY GALLAGHER)
11/30 DSB
12/1 WHICH ONE'S PINK? performing Dark Side of the Moon
12/2 DWEEZIL ZAPPA
12/5 SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS
12/6 JD HENRY LANG
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12/9 DAVE ALVIN and JIMMIE DALE GILMORE
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12/15 ROBERT CRAY
12/16 PROJECT PRESLEY (Elvis Presley Tribute)
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12/23 An Evening with DAVID BENOIT: CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

11/29 BAND OF FRIENDS

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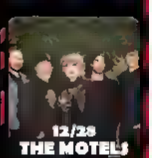
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Wasa Bae?

Izakaya Wasa moved and upgraded into Robata Wasa

BY EDWIN GOEI

For years, there were two warring Japanese restaurants at Irvine Spectrum. Izakaya Wasa opened about 10 years ago and Kabuki four years after that. They were located almost directly across from each other at the Edwards Cinemas courtyard—two samurais on the verge of a duel. Both served sushi and cooked dishes, but in diametrically opposed ways.

Kabuki is from the multistate chain that has a glossy, spiral-bound, all-encompassing menu and a dining room that's a city unto itself. Izakaya Wasa was from a smaller clan of sushi restaurants that used to include the popular WaSa Sushi in Irvine, where James Hamamori—now at South Coast Plaza's Hamamori—first dazzled folks with his "Treasure" upgrades on nigiri that had them topped with wasabi-cream sauce, jalapeño and crispy onion. But the most important distinction between the two restaurants was that Izayaka Wasa's menu was smaller and the dining room more intimate.

I've been to both. Though I preferred Izakaya Wasa, I saw the appeal of Kabuki, which was aimed at pleasing the largest possible demographic with familiar standards such as teriyaki bento boxes and California rolls. I liken it to the Denny's of Japanese food and sushi. Izakaya Wasa's dishes, on the other hand, were slightly more upscale and experimental.

Izakaya Wasa has now moved to bigger digs on the other side of the mall in a just-debuted courtyard that also boasts a shiny, new, glass-encased Apple Store. With the move, the restaurant also changed its name to Robata Wasa.

Though the new space isn't to the scale of Kabuki's, it's close. One wall dominates the room, it's lined with dozens of plates arranged to form the image of Hokusai's *The Great Wave*. There's a sushi bar where no one seems to want to sit. And behind that, the chefs roast sticks of kushiyaki over the white-hot coals of a robata grill, from which the restaurant takes its new name.

The refocus on the robata means that where there used to be only eight kinds of kushiyaki, there are now nearly 30. The list currently covers enough proteins to rival what's offered at Honda Ya in Tustin. In addition to smoky chicken thigh and pork belly, you can now splurge on Wagyu beef rib-eye and salmon belly, which will cost you $12 and $8 dollars, respectively.

But the most telling difference between the old and the new is that Wasa's signature "Treasures" are gone. And because they're now dealing with potentially more customers spread out over a larger area, the servers wear earpieces to coordinate their efforts. With these changes, I realized immediately that this incarnation has evolved into an entirely different restaurant—one that's more service-oriented and even more experimental.

BIGGER AND BETTER

PHOTOS BY EDWIN GOEI

When they greet you, the servers make it a point to bow, even the non-Japanese ones. And on the menu, there are dishes I'd never seen at the old place. There's a horseradish-spiked salmon tartare served in a hipster jar with toasted slices of baguette that end up making it taste more French-Californian than Japanese.

An eggplant tempura, the fried vegetable stacked like Lincoln Logs, shines with a glazing of honey and comes with a frothy dipping sauce made with even more honey. Eating the dish reminded me of the fried bananas you get with coconut ice cream at the end of a Thai meal more than anything remotely associated with tempura.

And then there's the signature main entrée of squid-ink uni pasta, which features housemade, jet-black dreadlocks of noodle tossed in a rich uni cream sauce. Since it's full of seafood umami, it's like a mac and cheese made for Aquaman. And it's this fishiness from the shreds of nori, the lobes of fresh uni, and orbs of salt-bursting ikura that's key to tempering the richness from becoming overbearing.

There's also a pretty wonderful, creamy crab croquette that, once you breach its crunchy outer cocoon of panko, nozes a slow-moving béchamel with bits of crab-meat in it. Best of all, the dish comes with a funky fermented-goma dressing that turns the base of shredded cabbage into a salad worthy of its own dish.

You can still get sushi and rolls here, of course. But after sampling the pedestrian and slightly muddy-tasting unagi nigiri, I decided the delicate Japanese Spring Roll—which has shrimp, spicy crab, tuna, lettuce, cucumber and avocado all wrapped inside rice paper—is probably a better choice than the Rainbow or the Dragon Roll, even if it's served with a standard Thai sweet chile sauce from a bottle. Besides, if I wanted a Rainbow Roll, I could go to Kabuki, where they're still doled out as though Grand Slam Breakfasts.

ROBATA WASA
926 Spectrum Center Dr., Irvine, (949) 536-6064, www.robatawasa.com. Mon.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. & 5-10 p.m.; Fri., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. & 5-11 p.m.; Sat., noon-3 p.m. & 5-11 p.m.; Sun., noon-3 p.m. & 6-10 p.m. Main dishes, $14-$45. Full bar.

WHAT THE ALE
» GREG NAGEL

Beery Holidays

The typical beer festival can be a scary endeavor if not run properly. The thought of an overcrowded, drunken bro fest in a sweaty parking lot, where the beers are the same suds you can get at the average Yard House—blech. Save your hard earned money and put 2018 to bed with these two great beer events.

Sort of like a nightmare before Christmas is the **Brewers Mash**, an epic four-hour event spent within the haunted confines of the Fullerton Arboretum. Did the person wearing a *Little Shop of Horrors* Audrey II costume pass gas, or is that the rotting-flesh aroma of the corpse flower in full bloom? Find out Oct. 20 at one of the area's only evening festivals. All proceeds go to the OC Brewer's Guild nonprofit, which uses the event proceeds to help pay for educating the public about OC's rich brewing tradition, protecting its interests and participating in community events. You can even join the guild at the event! *At the Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Rd., Fullerton, events.ocbrewers.org/e/brewers-mash. Oct. 20, 6-10 p.m. $50. 21+.*

Looking to celebrate the Festivus for the rest of us? The **BrewHoHa** is one of my favorites of all the BrewHaHa events, with special ale pours from the area's best breweries. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and Inland Empire. There's usually fun live music, plus you can get an early start on gift shopping! *At the Phoenix Club, 1340 S. Sanderson Ave., Anaheim, www.ocbrewhoho.com. Dec. 8, noon-4 p.m. $20-$55. 21+.*

LETTERS@OCWEEKLY.COM

CYNTHIA REBOLLEDO

Grand Reopening

After 22 years, South Coast Farms merges with the Ecology Center

BY CYNTHIA REBOLLEDO

The Ecology Center, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing environmental awareness and creative solutions for thriving on this planet, has taken over South Coast Farms' lease, effective Oct. 4. But don't fret: Farmer George Kibby will continue to grow his wonderful produce for the farm stand!

Because of commercial development, rising water costs and industrial agriculture competition, farming in Orange County has become a disappearing heritage. But despite these hurdles, South Coast Farms this year celebrated 22 years of planting and growing certified organic fruits and vegetables in San Juan Capistrano.

Dedicated to raising healthy produce for community members, husband-and-wife team Farmer George and Rebecca Kibby have worked the land using organic methods since day one. "It's simple—people don't want to eat food with poison on it, and we don't want to expose our workers to pesticides," says Farmer George. "When you're in a situation like this, surrounded by development, it's insane to think you can go out there and spray chemicals without some kind of community impact (such as the case with Non-Toxic Irvine), we have the athletic fields behind us, schools, people living here and the ocean all nearby."

Kibby took over the farm in 1997 (he originally farmed across the street). "I've been farming for a while," he says. "I came up to Orange County after farming in Mexico for 13 years, and this place was available for lease, so I made a bid on it, and we got it."

The farm wasn't organic at that time, so he and his wife spent three years converting and cultivating the land from conventional to organic. South Coast Farms received its organic certification in 2002.

The Kibbys derive all of their income from farming. Rebecca says they've been significantly impacted by the drought because their methods require moisture in the soil for the whole system to work. Nevertheless, their tenaciousness, passion and grit keep the farm prospering, along with special programs.

In 2000, Rebecca instituted a community-supported agriculture (CSA) partnership, allowing people who subscribe to the program to have direct access to fresh, local organic produce. And on dedicated days, the public is invited to walk the fields and pick their own strawberries and other crops.

The farm stand is open seven days a week, and fruits and vegetables are rotated seasonally. During the winter months, you can find all the crucifers—broccolis, cauliflowers, turnips, chards, kale, lettuces, leafy greens, carrots and beets. In addition to certified organic fruits and vegetables, the Kibbys offer certified-organic, grass-fed beef from their ranch in North Dakota. "We were trying to source beef for ourselves, and we couldn't find it readily available, so I got a wild hair to buy a ranch," says Farmer George. "Ten years later, I'm still going. 'What was I doing?'"

From beneath the shade of a large tree outside their customized office trailer, the Kibbys look out over their farm. "Our main mission has always been to try to connect people back to their food," says Farmer George. "It makes it easier to do that if you're connecting them to food that has amazing flavors."

CREBOLLEDO@OCWEEKLY.COM

SOUTH COAST FARMS
32701 Alipaz St., San Juan Capistrano, (949) 661 9381, www.southcoastfarms.com

Wine Bar!
Come Taste at Hi-Time Wine Cellars
Thurs 10/11: WINE & SOUL WITH SANDRA TAVARES
Join winemaker/owner of Wine & Soul Sandra Tavares da Silva to taste through some of their Portugese wines (made alongside her partner and husband Jorge Serôdio Borges). With Andi & Amy too! We will taste some Spanish wines alongside the Portugese. $30, 4:30-8:00pm
Fri 10/12: WINES FROM DAN'S OREGON JOURNEY!
Our North American Wine Buyer toured Oregon's Willamette Valley in July & we'll pour some of the red and white wines that were shining bright, including Shea, Stoller, Chehalem, Cristom, Failla and Elk Cove! $25, 4:30-8:00pm
Sat 10/13: RHÔNE WINE Taste the south of France! $30, 2-8:00pm
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Moving On Up

Cafe Hidalgo's new owner brings the heat

I often get asked where people should go on a date night. One of the first places I always suggest is the Cellar in Fullerton. The intimate restaurant has a relaxed vibe and hauntingly great cocktails made by talented bartenders. Plus, the underground location means there's a lack of cell service, making for an evening filled with uninterrupted conversation.

When I heard the Cellar's owner, Ryan Dudley, had recently taken over Cafe Hidalgo, aboveground at the same location, I had a Scooby Doo-like hunch its bar program would soon rise. Seeing longtime Cellar bartenders Monica Lynch and Dustin Adams in the light of day at Hidalgo made me wonder if Dudley pulled this move so the Cellar staff could see the outside world and perhaps get a little vitamin D.

Cafe Hidalgo's charm runs deeper than just the drinks and Latin cuisine. The 95-year-old Spanish colonial building it fronts inside the Villa Del Sol is still a favorite for al fresco diners seeking candlelit romance. Although the bar program changed swiftly, the transformation of the rest of the menu and décor will be subtle over the coming weeks.

A few tapas bites will remain, assures Dudley, such as the mound of ceviche Andaluz that is a plump pile of shrimp and salsa fresca into which you dip crispy chips. The addition of fresh honeydew and cucumber makes for some solid cocktail snackery. Overall, it's super-mild, and some of the cocktails can add just the right amount of heat, if that's what you crave.

The Strawberry Season resembles your average strawberry daiquiri, but it comes out swinging with some sticky agave, strawberry-shortcake vibes, lime, Italian cherry, and heat via habanero bitters. "More than 600 pounds of fresh block ice is broken down between the two restaurants," Lynch notes as she pours the contents of her rosy

PHOTOS BY GREG NAGEL

Eat & Drink This Now

» GREG NAGEL

steel shaker over a perfectly clear cube of ice, garnishing the drink with a fresh berry.

I'm a sucker for negroni variants, and Lynch's Monte Negroni is a rustic take on the classic with mezcal, pineapple-infused campari, and Amaro Montenegro. The ingredients are akin to a three *amigos* party pack to which mezcal brings the smoke and booze, campari the flair, and Montenegro the 1970s vinyl records to spin. (For whatever reason, Amaro Montenegro reminds me of how a 1980s LA record store smells, complete with bitter orange incense.) Both cocktails are $12 apiece.

If you have room for a third, definitely give the updated sangria a twirl. According to Fullerton legend Corky Nepomuceno, "It's just as potent as the old version. Anyone lamenting about bringing back the old sangria is talking out of their wallet, as the new price is $8. Fret not, for happy-hour sangria will only be $6."

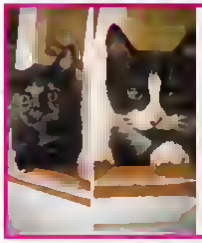
CAFE HIDALGO
305 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, (714) 447-3202, www.cafehidalgofullerton.com.

Upcoming Events

Oktoberfest Huntington Beach
Saturday, Oct 13 & 20
Old World Huntington Beach
Oktoberfest Party on Saturday evenings from 6.30pm to 1.30am and Admission is $15 in October. Celebrate Oktoberfest at Old World Huntington Beach and experience Orange County's Biggest Party since 1977!

SoCal VegFest 2018
Join us for the best VEGAN DAY PARTY!! Celebrating LIFE through food, drinks, music and lifestyle products. Bring your friends, family and service animals!!! Everyone's welcome.
Location: OC Fair & Events Center
When: Sat & Sun 10/20-10/21 **Daily:** 11am - 6pm

Messages



Need your help to find Rowie & Bella a forever home!!!! They are 10 weeks old siblings that have been fostered along with their mom since they were a week old. They are a loving, playful and healthy pair. They have been vaccinated, wormed, fixed and microchipped. Now all they need is a loving family of their own. Please contact Lorraine at Long Beach Spay and Neuter Foundation if interested in meeting these lovely kittens. (562)544-0335 or lbsn2006@yahoo.com

Featured This Week

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SUMMER IN CLOSEO EYES

COURTESY OF VIET FILM FEST

Welcome Back!

Viet Film Fest returns with an incredible lineup of global films

BY AIMEE MURILLO

After a year of internal restructuring and planning, the Viet Film Fest (VFF) returns to Orange County this weekend. This fest is close to my heart because of its warm and passionate organizers, who dutifully work behind the scenes to bring Vietnamese filmmakers and films to the community, as well as the fact that they've brought to the county some of the most intriguing panel discussions and have made me aware of some of the biggest Vietnamese talent in the industry. I'm specifically thinking of the year I saw Tran Anh Hung, director of the Oscar-nominated, Camera d'Or-winning *The Scent of Green Papaya*, on the same panel as Vietnamese actress Kieu Chinh, who starred in the 1991 film *The Joy Luck Club*. It remains one of the liveliest panels I've seen to date!

Returning in October instead of April this year, VFF fits nicely within the film festival season, but a couple of things set it apart. While it focuses on Viet filmmakers and cinema representing the Vietnamese experience, this festival is one of the most global—many of its 30 features were made in countries such as Malaysia, Germany, the Czech Republic, France, Canada and the United Kingdom. Also, a good 50 percent of the selected films were directed by women or feature strong female leads among its main characters, which is unprecedented, even in Hollywood.

VFF's collection of international films starts Friday morning with a short-film showcase themed around love, including *Spring Leaves* and *Nguyening: The Lee Nguyen Story*. The second short-film block centers on the important theme "Family Dynamics in the Diaspora", the Czech Republic's *Easter* and *Like Mother, Like Daughter* are among those screened. Both blocks include a Q&A session with cast and crew afterward.

Friday's opening-night film is a Vietnamese-Japanese feature titled *Summer In Closed Eyes*. Directed by Cao Thuy Nhi, this romantic love story stars plucky Phuong Anh Do as a young woman named Ha (which translates to Summer), who travels to Japan to find her estranged father. In the process, she meets a young man named Akira (Takafumi Akutsu). The young couple find love despite the language and cultural barrier between them, but Ha's father's health complications threaten their newfound happiness.

One of Saturday's most notable features is Orange County native Minh Duc Nguyen's second directorial feature, *Actress Wanted*. Shot in and around OC, this captivating thriller follows a young actress (played by Thien Nguyen) who answers a casting ad for a mysterious project directed by a lonely janitor (Long Nguyen). The project, as it turns out, is to re-create actual memories between the janitor and his dead wife, Hong, and to role-play what would have been their 30th wedding anniversary. Not only do I want to see how this suspense-filled story plays out, but I'm also really stoked to see familiar freeway exits and locations in Little Saigon featured in the film.

Another pair of films featuring strong women leads are *The Housemaid* and *Go Go Sisters*, screening Saturday and Sunday, respectively. A remake of the 2011 Korean film *Sunny*, *Go Go Sisters* follows two parallel storylines surrounding two different pairs of women—one a group of teenaged girls, the other a group of middle-aged women. With their varying ages and life experiences, the audience finds the commonalities they share.

Not to be confused with the 2010 South Korean feature directed by Im Sang-soo, Derek Nguyen's *The Housemaid* is a Gothic romance set during the Indochinese War. A young orphaned woman named Linh (Nhung Kate) is hired as a housemaid for a well-to-do family living in a French plantation. Linh attracts the attention of the landowner, Captain Sebastien Laurent (Jean-Michel Richaud), and the two start a relationship, which kicks off a strange series of events and rouses the ghost of the captain's dead wife, Camille, who is out for bloody vengeance. Originally released in 2016, *The Housemaid* was a tremendous hit in Vietnam and abroad, thanks to its excellent atmospheric horror and eroticism.

Among Sunday's slate of films is a screening of the late Vietnamese-American director Stephane Gauger's last film, *Kiss and Spell*. Gauger, who was born in Vietnam and moved to Orange County as a young boy, studied theater and French literature at Cal State Fullerton. In 1994, he moved back to Vietnam, where he worked as a lighting specialist and screenwriter before becoming a director. His sudden death in January at the age of 48 came as a shock to many in the Vietnamese film industry.

Kiss and Spell is a lighthearted comedy about a magician afraid of ghosts who falls in love with his assistant, who is followed by ghosts wherever she goes. To make the relationship work, the young man must suffer through his worst fears until he can rid her of her haunted entourage for good.

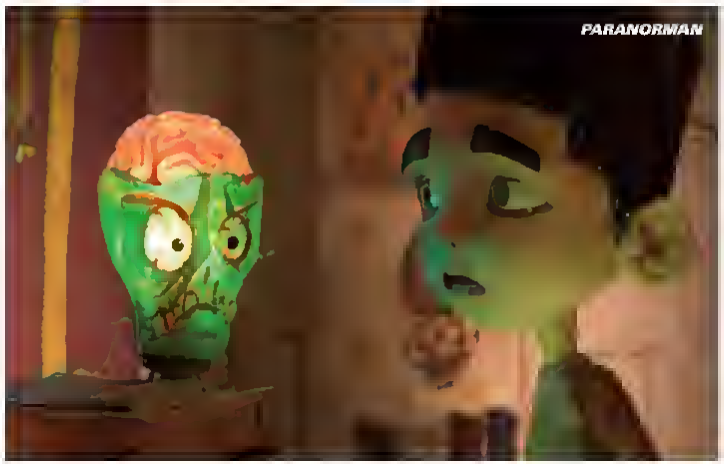
Besides its excellent films, other things to look forward to at VFF are the rad industry panels "Vietnamese Women in Film: The Power of Stories" on Saturday and "Migration, Identity and Home" on Sunday afternoon.

AMURILLO@OCWEEKLY.COM

VIET FILM FEST
at AMC Orange 30, 20 City Blvd W, Orange, www.vietfilmfest.com. For show times and tickets, visit the website.

Nothing Unusual to See Here, Folks

BY MATT COKER



FOCUS FEATURES

Tea With the Dames. Iconic actresses (and British dames) Eileen Atkins, Judi Dench, Joan Plowright and Maggie Smith talk about their lives and careers. *Directors Cut Cinema at Regency Rancho Niguel, 25471 Rancho Niguel Rd., Laguna Niguel, (949) 831-0446. Thurs., Oct. 11. Call for show times and ticket prices*

Don't Look Now. Donald Sutherland and Julie Christie play a couple grieving the death of their daughter whose lives are turned upside-down by a psychic who claims to be channeling her spirit. *The Frida Cinema, 305 E. Fourth St., Santa Ana; thefridacinema.org Thurs., Oct. 11, 2, 5:30 & 8 p.m. $7-$10.*

The Howling. As a TV journalist tries to heal at an isolated retreat, her colleague investigates the source of her shock and discovers a secret. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org Thurs., Oct. 11, 2:30, 5, 7 & 9 p.m. $7-$10.*

***Come to Life* Film Series.** The pioneering agroecology and permaculture work of Evan Marks, the founder and executive director of the Ecology Center. *The Ecology Center, 32701 Alipaz St., San Juan Capistrano, (949) 443-4223. Thurs., Oct. 11, doors open, 5:30 p.m.; discussion, 6 p.m.; screening, 6:30 p.m. Free, but RSVP required at www.theecologycenter.org/resources/event/film-screening-of-come-to-life-film/*

The Invisible War. Kirby Dick and Amy Ziering investigate the rape epidemic among U.S. military personnel in this 2012 Oscar-nominated documentary. *Chapman University Dale E. Fowler School of Law, Donald P. Kennedy Hall, 1 University Dr., Orange, (714) 628-2500. Thurs., Oct. 11, 6 p.m. Free.*

The Light Shines On. See the University of Colorado Boulder president who stood up to KKK members, the first female professor at a state university, and notable alumni. *Regency Lido Theater, 3459 Via Lido, Newport Beach, (949) 673-6350. Thurs., Oct. 11, 7 p.m. $15.*

MFKZ. After a scooter accident in a neo-urban hell, young Angelino experiences migraines, strange hallucinations and fits of rage-inspired superpowers. That leads him to discover he is half-human, half-supernatural alien (of the taking-over-the-planet variety). *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Thurs., Oct. 11 & Tues., 7 p.m. $12.50; also at the Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org Fri., Mon. & Wed.-Thurs., Oct. 18, 2, 4, 6 & 8 p.m., Sat., noon, 2, 4 & 6 p.m., Sun., 2, 4 & 6 p.m., Tues., 2, 4 & 9:30 p.m. $7-$10.*

Soufra. Manam Shaar and other refugee women from throughout the Middle East launch a catering company. *Art Theatre, 2025 E. Fourth St., Long Beach. (562) 436-5435. Thurs., Oct. 11, 7 p.m. $8.50-$11.50.*

***Doctor Who* New Season Premiere.** Besides the episode, attendees are shown behind the scenes bonus features. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Thurs., Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m. $12.50.*

Nightmare On Elm Street. Several people are hunted by a cruel serial killer who operates in the dream realm. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri.-Sat., 5 & 7 p.m., Sat., noon, 2:30 & 11:30 p.m. $7-$10.*

Despicable Me 3. The mumble-mouthed Minions want back their old crime boss, but Gru considers himself retired. *El Cerrito School, 1051 N. Hillside St., La Habra, (562) 383-4200. Fri., 6 p.m. Free.*

Leo Freedman Foundation First-Cut Screening. See the top films from last year's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts film majors. *Chapman University, Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, Marion Knott Studios, Folino Theater, 283 N. Cypress St., Orange, chapman.edu/dodge/. Fri., 7 p.m. Free.*

The Hills Have Eyes. A dysfunctional family's car breaks down in the Nevada desert, where they are attacked by a band of cave-dwelling cannibals. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri., 9 p.m., Sat., 9 & 11 p.m. $7-$10.*

The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Live shadow-cast troupe K.A.D.S. performs in Santa Ana while it's Midnight Insanity in Long Beach. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri., 11:30 p.m. $7-$10; also at Art Theatre, (562) 436-5435. Sat., 11:55 p.m. $8.50-$11.50.*

***Yuri!!! on ICE* Series Marathon.** Binge watch 12 episodes of the most critically acclaimed sports anime ever released. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Sat., noon $12.50.*

A Golden State of Mind. It's the engaging documentary on the late Huell Howser. *Chapman University Leatherby Libraries B11/Huell Howser Archives, 1 University Dr., Orange, (714) 532-6027. Sat., 3 p.m. Free.*

Coco. *Día de los Muertos* is celebrated early with music, crafts, giveaways, food (for sale), face painting, a photo booth and the 2017 computer-animated Disney Pixar hit. *Elks Lodge Garden Grove, 11551 Trask Ave., Garden Grove, (714) 741-5200. Sat., celebration, 4:30 p.m., screening, dusk. Free; also at Fullerton Public Library, 353 W. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton, (714) 738-6327. Thurs., Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. Free.*

ParaNorman. Young Norman Babcock learns that a centuries old witch's curse on their town is real and about to come true—and that only Norman can stop it. *City Gym and Pool, 1600 Palm Ave., Huntington Beach, (714) 960-8884. Sat., doors open, 7:15 p.m.; screening, 8 p.m. Free.*

Mr. Smith Goes to Washington. Jimmy Stewart plays the titular young senator who clashes with the corrupt establishment. *Various theaters; www.fathomevents.com. Sun. & Wed., 2 & 7 p.m. $12.50.*

***Scream+ Scream 2* Double Feature.** Wes Craven's genre changing horror comedies are presented back-to-stabbed-back. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Sun., 2:30 p.m., Mon., 2:30 & 7:30 p.m. $7-$10.*

Dummycrats. Social-media stars Diamond & Silk "journey across America to reveal the hypocrisy spewed by progressive, big-government-loving politicians on the left," according to FathomEvents. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Mon., 8 p.m. $15.*

Zombie. A woman goes to the Caribbean after her scientist father's boat turns up abandoned, but she and her crew are confronted by dead islanders rising up to attack the living. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Tues.-Wed., 2:30, 5:30 & 8 p.m. $7-$10.*

Ghostbusters. Ivan Reitman's 1984 blockbuster about paranormal scientists lucking out of their university gigs and lucking into an in-demand ghost eradication business. *Directors Cut Cinema at Regency Rancho Niguel, (949) 831-0446. Tues., 7:30 p.m. $8.*

Intelligent Lives. Dan Habib's documentary follows three pioneering young American adults with intellectual disabilities. *McBride High School, Auditorium, 7025 Parkcrest St., Long Beach, www.facebook.com/CACAlongbeach/. Wed., 6 p.m. Free.*

Young Frankenstein. Mel Brooks' 1974 black-and-white classic demonstrates Gene Wilder's genius writing and comedic acting. *Regency South Coast Village, 1561 W. Sunflower Ave., Santa Ana, (714) 557-5701. Wed., 7:30 p.m. $9.*

Ouija: Origin of Evil. A widowed mother unwittingly invites evil into her home by adding a new stunt to bolster her séance scam business. *Fullerton Public Library, Osborne Auditorium, (714) 738-6327. Thurs., Oct. 18, 1 p.m. Free.*

Anime Club. Premium prizes from Crunchyroll are doled out during this program aimed at ages 13-17. *Cypress Library, 5331 Orange Ave., Cypress, (714) 826-0350. Thurs., Oct. 18, 4 p.m. Free.*

Elvira's Movie Macabre. House on Haunted Hill. Creepy cocktails, raffles with peculiar prizes and more spooky surprises are promised during Los Angeles Arts Society's first Haunted House Party, which opens with live music by New Evil. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Thurs., Oct. 18, 7 p.m. $13.*

More Than Funny. Michael Jr. shares three real-life stories that are said to be inspiring and motivating. *Various theaters, www.fathomevents.com. Thurs., Oct. 18, 7 p.m. $12.50.*

OC Film Fiesta Opening Night: *Camino A Marte.* Humberto Hinojosa Ozcariz's award-winning 2017 Mexican road picture follows two friends driving through Baja California, where they meet a strange man who claims to be from another planet. *Santa Ana College, Phillips Hall Theatre, 1454 1592 North Bristol St., Santa Ana; www.ocfilmfiesta.org. Thurs., Oct. 18, 8 p.m. $3-$10. Parking, $2.*

MCOKER@OCWEEKLY.COM

Non-Omniscience

In *The Other Place*, an uncertain narrator turns the storytelling trope on its head

BY JOEL BEERS

Outdone only by the overuse of a character speaking on a phone in order to easily dump a load of exposition on the audience's ears, the literary device of using a narrator as the entry point, as well as anchor, of a play all too often destroys what makes drama dramatic: the drama. For every play in which it works—*The Glass Menagerie*, *Our Town*, *Huckleberry Finn* (okay, it's not a play, but whatever)—there are scads that feel cheap, convenient and cliché. There's a reason so many musicals use one.

But occasionally, a playwright employs the hackneyed device of the omniscient know-it-all who tells instead of shows to wondrous, spellbinding effect. Those lucky enough to see Laureo Yee's *Cambodian Rock Band* at South Coast Repertory earlier this year witnessed a play in which the narrator nearly stole the show (albeit to the actual play's expense), primarily because you couldn't trust a single word he said. The same goes for Sharr White's 2011 play *The Other Place*, receiving its Orange County premiere at the Chance Theater.

Juliana (a multidimensional Jacqueline Wright, who either by Matthew McCray's directorial vision or just raw stage presence commandeers the stage whenever she's on it, which is nearly each second of this approximately 90-minute play) is our protagonist and narrator. A hard-as-nails corporate type promoting a new wonder drug at a medical seminar in the U.S. Virgin Islands, Juliana is a former neurologist who has put research aside to basically shill her patented anti-dementia drug. But early on, we realize there is much more to Juliana than her intelligence and bristly armor of being a woman in an industry dominated by men. The first clue is her obsession, while giving her presentation, with a young woman in the audience wearing a bikini.

During the first half of the play, the action cuts in and out of her presentation to scenes with her husband, Ian (a more-than-capable Ron Hastings), and a doctor (Krystyna Ahlers, in one of several roles) screening her for some kind of medical examination. We learn that Juliana suffered an "episode" during her presentation. She is convinced she has brain cancer. Everyone around her is convinced it is something just as dire. And as we see her descend into a deteriorating mental state in which she receives phone calls from a long-lost daughter and the man who Juliana thinks abducted her, begins forgetting words, rails at everyone around her, and flits in and out of dissociative behavior, it's impossible to not feel deeply for her—even as Wright does everything she possibly can to make us not like her.

DOUG CATTLER, TRUE IMAGE STUDIO

It's an impressive feat on both the playwright's and the actress' part. Narrators are supposed to have all the answers; all too often, their entire reason for being is to make the audience not have to think about what's going on. But Juliana not only doesn't have any answers, but she also isn't even sure about the questions she's supposed to ask. This turns the narrator trope on its head, making the whole affair more of a mystery, or a riddle to be solved, rather than the kind of spoon-fed familiarity that too many playwrights settle for.

Instead of being in on the joke, Wright's Juliana is the joke, a joke with no laughter, just a sobering, withering finality once she and the audience finally realize what is going on. It may be impossible to crawl into the headspace of a mentally ill person, whether that illness is a chronic lifelong affliction, a chemical imbalance, or an apparently sudden manifestation of a brain that has stopped properly firing on all cylinders—which isn't sudden at all, but rather a long, protracted assault of a mind at war with itself, something that can't be seen or even felt. It's just there.

But *The Other Place* comes close to letting those of us whose private madness is genuinely private understand the agonizing plight of those, as well as those closest to them, whose madness goes public.

In that respect, *The Other Place* is a more harrowing counterpoint to the 2010 Pulitzer Prize-winning musical *Next to Normal*. Whereas that play ended with a note of optimism, as the suburban mother at the center seems determined to forge a new life amid the wreckage of her former one, there's little to feel good about in *The Other Place*. Juliana, or at least some semblance of her, is still present at the play's end, thanks to the wonder drug, but now instead of proselytizing for the drug, she's a somewhat walking and talking billboard for it. A guinea pig, if you will. The lights are still on, and occasionally they even flash, but mostly they're getting dimmer and dimmer. And if you don't get how that is a testament to one aspect of life on this sad hitch of a planet, then you are lucky indeed for not having to pay attention.

THE OTHER PLACE

at the Chance Theater, 5522 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim. (888) 455-4212, www.chancetheater.com. Fri., 8 p.m., Sat., 3 & 8 p.m., Sun., 3 p.m. Through Oct. 21. $21–$35

ARTSOVERLOAD

» AIMEE MURILLO

Oct. 12-18

"AEROSOL: THE GRAFFITI EFFECT" The evolution of graffiti, featuring well-known street artists from various underground graffiti crews. Opening reception, Tues., 4-6 p.m. Gallery open Mon.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Through Nov. 16. Free. Santiago Canyon College Art Gallery, 8045 E. Chapman Ave., Orange, sccollege.edu/Departments/Art/Pages/SCC-Art-Gallery.aspx.

ANIMATION TALK: MICHAEL GIAIMO The Disney art director who has worked on the films *Frozen* and *Pocahontas* discusses his career and how he was inspired by current exhibiting artist Eyvind Earle. Fri., 7-9 p.m. Free, but a ticket is required. Hilbert Museum, 167 N. Atchison St., Orange, (714) 516-5880, www.hilbertmuseum.com.

GLITTERFEST Juried show of select home-décor vendors, artisans and handicraft makers presenting their own jewelry, sculptures, painting and decorations for the Halloween and Christmas holiday seasons. Sun., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. $7. Spring Field Banquet Center, 501 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton; www.glimerfest.com.

KINGS: A newly appointed congresswoman and a lobbyist join forces to unseat a corrupt senator. Tues.-Thurs., 7:30 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 2:30 & 8 p.m.; Sun., 2:30 & 7:30 p.m. Through Nov. 18. $20–$52. South Coast Repertory, 655 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 708-5555, www.scr.org.

NIGHTMARES OF SNOWFLAKES This one-day arts-and-crafts show presents edgy, adult-oriented goods by local artisans and designers, plus cookie tastings, musical entertainment, photo opportunities and more. Sat., 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Free with RSVP. Wander Outfitters, 217 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, (657) 241-7491, www.instagram.com/nightmaresofsnowflakes.

OVATION! Festival Ballet Theatre presents three different dance works created by some of Southern California's most prolific contemporary choreographers. Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m. $35–$45. Irvine Barclay Theatre, 4242 Campus Dr., Irvine. (949) 854-4646, www.thebarclay.org.

"RECREATION" Santa Ana's Roger Eyes Rose presents a solo exhibition of his upcycled art, in which he paints friendly ghosts over older recycled paintings. Sat., 6 p.m. Free. GCS Santa Ana, 706 E. Fourth St., Santa Ana. (714) 541-0301; www.gcssantaana.com.

"UN-IDENTIFIED OBJECTS" Artists Richard Rohn, Candice Gawne and Steven Roberts create new abstract pieces out of random elements and objects. Open Thurs.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Through Oct. 27. Free. Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, 117 N. Sycamore St., Santa Ana. (714) 667-1517, www.occca.org.

"THE WEIRD WICKED WORLD OF WONDEROUS WONDERS" A group show for which artists imagine their own strange oddities and circus sideshow wonders. Sat., 7 p.m. Free. Dark Art Emporium, 256 Elm Ave., Long Beach, (562) 612-1118, www.darkartemporium.com.

OC WEEKLY HALLOWEEN GUIDE 2018

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The Haunted Envy
VIPnightlife.com
Envy Nightclub
4647 MacArthur Blvd.
Newport Beach
Wed, Oct 31, 2018, 9:00 PM –
Thu, Nov 1, 2018, 2:00 AM
From the Creators of Midnight Kiss NYE, get your thrill on this Halloween at the deadliest Sin the Haunted Envy!! This amazing Halloween bash will be the best Orange County Halloween Costume Party this Year

ANAHEIM

Anaheim Hallowen Parade
anaheimfallfestival.org/parade/
Downtown Anaheim
Parade starts up Broadway from West Street, left on Harbor Boulevard, right on Center Street then right on Anaheim Boulevard ending at the Packing House.
Start time is 6:00 PM.
Get your spot along the route.

SANTA ANA

A Halloween Spooktacular
Lgbtcenteroc.org
2022 Heliotrope Drive, Santa Ana
A fabulous evening filled with food, drinks, costumes, contests, prizes, music and dancing. General admission starts at $50, and can be upgraded to include access to our full bar!

MUSE Burlesque: Halloween Edition
thecopperdoorbar.com/
225 North Broadway, Santa Ana
Sun, October 14, 2018
7:00 PM – 11:00 PM
Pre-party with spooky seductress Lily Von Lindy on vocals
COSTUME CONTEST WITH FABULOUS PRIZES!
Afterparty and Performer Meet and Greet

LAKE FOREST

Hallow's Eve Bowl Jam
Etnieskatepark.com
20028 Lake Forest Dr.
Lake Forest
Costume contest to win Nintendo Switch, Live music by G.A.S., food Vendors such as Maiz Cocina and The Thick Shake Factory

LAGUNA NIGUEL

Laguna Niguel Haunted Trails
facebook.com/lnhauntedtrails/
29751 Crown Valley Parkway,
Laguna Niguel
Hike through a series of themed mazes and tents.

LONG BEACH

Queen Mary's Dark Harbor
Queenmary.com
1126 Queens Highway,
Long Beach
Run away from monsters on scary paths and secret rooms
Live entertainment,
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WHY? BECAUSE WE LIKE HIM

NICK NUK'EM

Started From the Bottom

TWhy immortalizes himself with tracks by Drake and Jay-Z after a near-death experience

BY NICK NUK'EM

Producer TWhy was convinced he was going to die earlier this year. Instead, the Pomona-bred beatmaker experienced the latest of several rebirths, each of them nestling him closer to lifelong well-being.

But at the beginning of 2018, TWhy (born Tim Moore) was hospitalized with E. coli for two weeks. "I was praying a lot in those times. When you think you're about to die, life changes. I don't care what anyone says," he says plainly. "I've changed my whole life since January. I'm 100 percent sober, and now everything's happening."

TWhy bagged a co-producer credit on Drake's platinum-selling track "Talk Up," featuring Jay-Z, from the DJ Paul-produced LP *Scorpion*. The recognition led to TWhy's longtime idol, producer Scott Storch, deeming him the "Young Storch."

Judging by TWhy's skill set and the gigs he's booking these days, the nickname certainly appears to hold true. Recently, he was tapped by 2 Chainz to work on his next studio album, *Rap or Go to the League*. It's a full-circle moment for TWhy, whose first major beat placement came on the track "Flexin' On My Baby Mama" from the rap star's 2014 *Freebase EP*.

Prior to producing and running the streets with some of Pomona's best-known gangsters, pimps, hustlers and MCs, TWhy played a handful of seasons as a semi-pro hockey player. One brawl left him with a cracked face and without the zest to continue playing the game. Soon after, he picked up a keyboard and a piano-lesson book and taught himself some chords. His newfound passion put him in contact with some of the locals, and he opened up a studio steps away from one of the state's most infamous stretches of land, Holt Boulevard.

"All the homies used to pull up and send their hoes straight from the studio. Bitches would come back smelling like dick and old [dollar] bills," he says. "And it was dangerous as fuck, man. It was so hood because all the homies do their shit, so all the enemies would know where we were at. ... There was a shootout in front of the shit. Police. It was crazy."

The "skid row of the San Gabriel Valley" location gave TWhy his first taste of the lifestyle and put him in touch with such IE legends as Sly Boogie and Suga Free. His experience assured him he could succeed in the business, but as he moved forward, TWhy saw homies perish and take on jail sentences, forcing him to take a step back and recalibrate.

Shortly after getting back to business, VH1 tapped Moore for a gig, thanks to the connections of a local friend. The network bought "probably like a thousand beats" from him, which made their way onto shows such as *Deal or No Deal* and *Extreme Makeovers: Home Edition*.

TWhy's stock rose once again only to fall harder than ever before. Shortly after the TV deal and a stint on Mack 10's Hoo-Bangin' imprint that put him on stages rapping around the country, he found his manager had fleeced him for about $40,000. "I lost everything, [including] my car. Everyone went to jail. So, pretty much me and the homies were living out of hotels, just doing it," he says. He even experienced another shootout in another studio. "I was like, 'Fuck it,'" Moore says, reliving the exhaustion.

He then headed to Los Angeles to work with his friend, Grammy Award-winning producer Danny Boy. "That's when I really put shit into overdrive," TWhy says.

Two months into his new venture, TWhy partnered with DJ Paul and helped the pioneering collective Three 6 Mafia, then known as Da Mafia 6ix, put together 2013's *6ix Commandments* project. Soon after, 2 Chainz reached out, as well at Riff Raff at the height of the "Codeine Castle" days.

TWhy then focused on developing local artists under his own imprint, GWAP Mu$ic. His roster includes Young Fingaprint and Faygo Jones, both of whom have gotten off to hot starts regionally.

Through it all, TWhy has stayed true to his sound, which was created by his onetime mentor, now partner DJ Paul, from whom TWhy has learned about investments, listening and how to carry himself as a man. "He just a real dude," TWhy says.

But TWhy's loyalty to the beats that matched his aggressive behavior in his youth have finally paid off.

"Everyone wanted me to change my sound. I was like, 'Man, fuck that,'" he says. "They wanted me to do some rock & roll shit. And I could say this and be confident with it: I was one of the first trap producers in California."

LETTERS@OCWEEKLY.COM

WESLEY YEN

A View From the Top

Young the Giant get reflective on new album *Mirror Master*

BY WYOMING REYNOLDS

A couple of hours before they were set to hit the main stage at Ohana Fest in Dana Point, Young the Giant singer Sameer Gadhia and drummer Francois Comtois rest comfortably in their trailer. Having arrived earlier than their band mates, Gadhia, sporting a tucked-in Hawaiian button-down shirt and dress pants, and Comtois, who leans back casually in his chair in a jeans-and-T-shirt ensemble, respectively took stock of how long and short a decade in the spotlight can be—even if that means describing the unglamorous nature of staying at your parents' house the night before a local festival.

"Always great to get a home-cooked meal and to stay at home," the two joked.

The Irvine natives have soared past their initial expectations. First known as the Jakes, the quintet changed their name to Young the Giant in 2009, then became popular based on the alt-rock strength of "Cough Syrup" and "My Body." As they plowed through multiple headlining tours, it would have been easy for the band to enjoy their success and release music at a leisurely clip. Instead, Young the Giant made a quick return to the studio, they approached their fourth album, *Mirror Master* (released Oct. 12), looking to keep their songwriting fresh.

Unlike 2016's *Home of the Strange*, on which the band took a look at the world at large, Young the Giant looked inward to the chaotic elements that have encompassed culture and society. "It's more introspective of how America and how the world got here," Gadhia said. "The image that we saw of America was something entirely different. In a lot of ways, this record isn't as political, it's how modern technology and everything has led to this point of this internal dialogue that everyone has and that they're a superstar of their own life and how it's played out in a much larger way."

"You can take 10 different angles of 10 different photos and make it 10 different ways," Comtois added. "For us, it's having these conversations going into writing and how to react to something so shocking. Once you realize the things you didn't see happening, it forces you—and us—to turn inward and have a look at the relationships in our lives."

Despite having written 50 songs, which include incomplete or half-finished tracks that were recorded across multiple locations, it was easy for the group to pare down what would make the cut. "Rock has suffered for a while since it hides behind tropes and clichés that have been said," Gadhia said. Evaluating their lives made it easier to create relatable songs, they said, since they tackled the issues and vulnerabilities that others may also have.

"To think that it's been 10 years, not to get too sappy, but it's not something we take for granted," Comtois said. "The luxury we have is that our songs run the gamut from heavier stuff to poppy stuff to singer/songwriter. But our expectations have grown, too, which is cool."

"For us, it was just like, 'Try to write great songs,'" Gadhia said. "We just want to show the many different sides of who we are."

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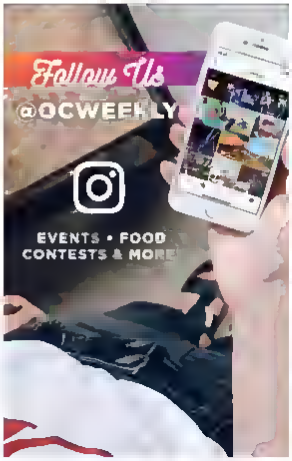

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10/13 RANDY HOUSER
10/14 STICK TO YOUR GUNS & EMMURE W/WAGE WAR + SANCTION LOW TICKET ALERT
10/16 MAYDAY PARADE W/THIS WILD LIFE, WILLIAM RYAN KEY & OH WEATHERLY
10/18 THIEVERY CORPORATION W/JULIAN MARLEY LOW TICKET ALERT

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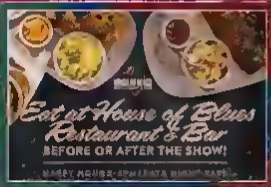

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Friday

DEATH LENS, BURNOUT REEF, 3LH, THE GNARS, THOSE PRETTY ROYS 6 p.m. $5. all ages. Garden Amp. 12762 Main St., Garden Grove. (949) 415-8544. gardenamp.com.

THE HIGGS, ECSTATIC UNION 8 p.m. $10. 21+. The Wayfarer. 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa. (949) 764-0039; www.wayfarercm.com.

THE HIGH CURBS, BLIVET, THESE PILGRIMS, MAKEOUT REEF 8 p.m., $5. all ages. The Constellation Room, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com.

JO SOUTNER, BSOORE RAMEL 8 p.m. $32.50, all ages. Coach House. 33157 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano. (949) 496-8930; thecoachhouse.com.

THREE BAD JACKS, THE NULA GIRLS, STRAIGHT SHOOTER 8 p.m. $13-$15, 21+. Alex's Bar, 2913 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach. (562) 434-8292, www.alexsbar.com.

THE TWILIGHT SAD, SMALL PLANETS 9 p.m., $20. 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin. (714) 544-1995, www.martysonnewport.com.

Saturday

THE BABYS, LIQUID CIRCUS, THE RELATIVES 8 p.m. $20. all ages. Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, (949) 496-8930; thecoachhouse.com.

CURRENSY 8 p.m. $20. all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com.

EARTHLESS, BRANT BJORK 8 p.m., $20. 21+. Alex's Bar. 2913 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, (562) 434-8292; www.alexsbar.com.

THE MATTSON 2, GINGER ROOT 8 p.m., $12-$15, 21+. The Wayfarer. 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa. (949) 764-0039; www.wayfarercm.com.

SNACTORERFEST 7 p.m. $10. all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk. 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim. (714) 778-2583. www.houseofblues.com/anaheim.

UNWRITTEN LAW 5:30 p.m., $15. all ages. Garden Amp. 12762 Main St., Garden Grove. (949) 415-8544. gardenamp.com.

Sunday

THE JACKETS, THE LOONS, THE NIGHT TIMES, THE THINGZ 8 p.m. $10, 21+. Alex's Bar. 2913 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach. (562) 434-8292; www.alexsbar.com.

SABRINA CLAUDIO, SNNY 8 p.m., $25-$75. all ages. The Observatory. 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana. (714) 957-0600. www.observatoryoc.com.

STICK TO YOUR GUNS, EMMURE (PRESENTED BY SOUND RINK) 6 p.m. $20. all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim. (714) 778-2583. www.houseofblues.com/anaheim.

2MEX 9 p.m., free. 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin. (714) 544-1995. www.martysonnewport.com.

Monday

DAVIS 8 p.m., free. 21+. The Wayfarer. 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa. (949) 764-0039. www.wayfarercm.com.

MONSTER MAGNET, ELECTRIC CITIZEN, DARR SKY CHOIR 8 p.m. $20. all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana. (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com.

Tuesday

ALLEN STONE, NICR WATERHOUSE 8 p.m., $30-$99. all ages. The Observatory. 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana. (714) 957-0600. www.observatoryoc.com.

THE JOY FORMIDABLE, TWIN OAKS 9 p.m. $26-$30. 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin. (714) 544-1995. www.martysonnewport.com.

MAYDAY PARADE 6 p.m., $29. all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim. (714) 778-2583. www.houseofblues.com/anaheim.

Wednesday

GROOVESESSION, JOE MARCINER BAND 8 p.m., free. 21+. The Wayfarer. 843 W. 19th St. Costa Mesa. (949) 764-0039. www.wayfarercm.com.

JOHN PAUL WHITE 9 p.m. $30. 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin. (714) 544-1995; www.martysonnewport.com.

YAEJI, STUCINT, FAYCNEE 8 p.m., $25, all ages. The Observatory. 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600. www.observatoryoc.com.

Thursday, Oct. 18

O.R.I. | SRULLCRACK 9 p.m., $25. 21+. Marty's On Newport, 14401 Newport Ave., Tustin. (714) 544-1995; www.martysonnewport.com.

MAGGIE ROGERS, MALLRAT 8 p.m. $29. all ages. The Observatory. 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana. (714) 957-0600. www.observatoryoc.com.

MICHAEL NAU AND THE NIGHTY THREAD (COTTON JONES); ERIN RAE 8 p.m., $12, 21+. The Wayfarer. 843 W. 19th St. Costa Mesa. (949) 764-0039; www.wayfarercm.com.

THIEVERY CORPORATION 7:30 p.m., $35.50, all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim. (714) 778-2583; www.houseofblues.com/anaheim

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UPCOMING SEX EDUCATION EVENTS

LEARNING THE ROPES: BASIC ROPE BONDAGE
THURS. OCT. 25TH @ 7:15PM

Are you interested in rope bondage, but overwhelmed by the amount of information and techniques available? This workshop is geared towards the beginner who wants to learn some basic knots and ties that you can use at home. This is a beginner level class. No prior rope experience is necessary. Tickets are $20 per person or $30 per couple when prepaid by 10/24/18. If space is available, tickets will be $25 per person on the day of the workshop.

HOW TO PLEASE A WOMAN:
THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO FEMALE ORGASMS
THURS. NOV. 8TH

This workshop is open to women & couples. In this workshop we will learn how to have more frequent & more powerful orgasms! We will discuss the female sexual response cycle and the best ways to achieve orgasms through penetration, clitoral stimulation and g-spot play. Tickets are $15 per person or $25 per couple when prepaid by 11/7/18. If space is available, tickets are $25 per person on the day of the workshop.

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Quickies

I was involved with a straight man who enjoys cross-dressing and taking explicit photos. The problem is that the props he uses belong to his three children, all younger than age 12. For example, he dressed up as a slutty schoolgirl and wore his daughter's backpack. He dressed up as a slutty cowgirl and posed with his son's stuffed horse; he even had the horse eating his "carrot." I told him he should not use his children's things as props. He believes that his children will never see the photos, so no harm will come of it. I'm horrified at the thought of these kids (perhaps as adults) stumbling over these pictures. He posts them on Instagram and Facebook, so they aren't private, and he can't control where they go. It's one of the reasons I ended the relationship. Is there anything I can say to him?
Canceled Definitely Promising Relationship Over Photo Sessions

You told him what he's doing is wrong, you explained the enormous risk he's running, and you dumped him. COPROPS. You could take one last run at it and try to explain that his children finding these photos isn't one of those "low-risk, high-consequence events," i.e., something that's unlikely to happen but would be utterly disastrous if it did. (Think of the super-volcano that is Yellowstone National Park erupting or a deranged, racist billionaire somehow managing to win a U.S. presidential election.) Nope. If he's posting these photos online, at least one of his children will stumble over them—or one of their friends will. ("Hey, isn't this you dad? And your backpack?") Your ex needs to knock this shit off, and he'll most likely need the help of a mental-health pro in order to do so.

My parents were married for almost 40 years—and on paper, things seemed fine. They rarely fought and were an example of a strong, monogamous marriage until the day my mother died. Recently, I found writings by my dad revealing he had several casual encounters with men over the course of their marriage. Do I tell him I know? We are close, but sex isn't something we usually discuss. What should I do with this information, if anything?
A Deeply Upsetting Lie That Scalds

When you say their relationship seemed fine "on paper," ADULTS, what you mean is their relationship was decent and loving. Well, now you know it wasn't perfect—but no relationship is. Your mother is dead (I'm sorry for your loss), and either she made peace with this fact about her husband long ago or she never knew about it. Either way, no good will come from confronting your father about the handful of dicks he sucked decades ago.

I'm a 47-year-old virgin straight man. What advice can you give me on losing my virginity?
Wanting And Hoping

There are lots of 40-year-old-and-older women out there who are virgins—they write in, too—so putting "middle-aged virgin seeks same" in your personal ad wouldn't be a bad idea. Find someone in your same situation. WAH...and treat her with kindness, gentleness and patience—the same as you would like to be treated.

I'm married and poly, with one partner in addition to my husband. My partner has a friend-with-benefits arrangement with a woman he's been with since before we met. The FWB is not poly, but she's always known my partner is. She has always insisted they're not a couple, but he knows she would be hurt if she found out he was with someone else, so he has avoided telling her he's now also with me. I don't like being someone's secret. My husband knows I'm with someone else and is fine with it. If my partner's FWB felt the same, I wouldn't see a problem. But this feels oddly like I'm helping my partner cheat on his FWB, even though they're "not a couple" (her words). So it's not cheating...is it?
Pretty Obviously Lost, Yeah

It's not cheating—it's plausible deniability. Your partner's FWB would rather not know he's seeing anyone else, so she doesn't ask him about his other partners and he doesn't tell. Accommodating his FWB's desire not to know about other partners—doing the DADT open thing—does mean keeping you a secret, POLY, at least from her. If you're not comfortable with that, you'll have to end things with your partner.

I'm scared of two things. (1) I'm scared that if I break up with my girlfriend of four years, I will be throwing away the best thing I will ever have because I'm scared that I don't love her in the way she deserves (in the way people say you will "just know" about) or because we have normal relationship problems and both have our own mental-health issues. (2) I'm also scared that if I don't break up with her, I am keeping her in a relationship that is not good because of my fear of never finding someone as good as her, and we would both actually be happier with someone else.
Scared Of Being Alone

1. Nobody "just knows," SOBA, and everyone has doubts—that's why commitments are *made* (consciously entered into) and are not some sort of romantic or sexual autopilot that kicks in when we meet the "perfect" person. We commit and recommit and forgive and muddle through—but when we're asked about our relationships, we tend to lean on cliches such as "It was love at first sight," "I just knew," "The One"—cliches that often fill others with doubt about the quality of their relationships.

2. Get on iTunes and download the original Broadway cast recordings of *Company*, *Follies* and *A Little Night Music*. Pay particular attention to "Sorry-Grateful," "The Road You Didn't Take" and "Send in the Clowns."

If I write you a letter asking for advice and don't want it published, even anonymously, will you answer?
Keeping It Confidential, 'Kay?

While I can't respond to every letter I receive, KICK, I do sometimes respond privately. Just one request: If you send a letter that you don't want published, please mention that at the start. I will frequently read an extremely long letter—so long that I start making notes or contacting experts before I finish reading it—only to discover "please don't publish this" at the bottom. If a letter isn't for publication, please mention that at the beginning. I promise that doing so increases your chances of getting a private response.

On the Lovecast *(savagelovecast.com), adult babies explained, finally. Contact Dan via mail@savagelove.net, follow him on Twitter @fakedansavage, and visit ITMFA.org.*

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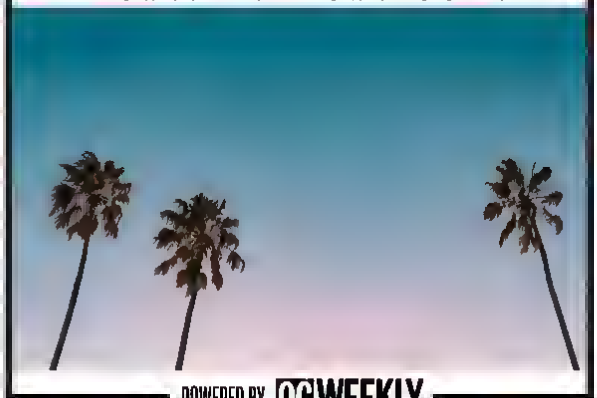

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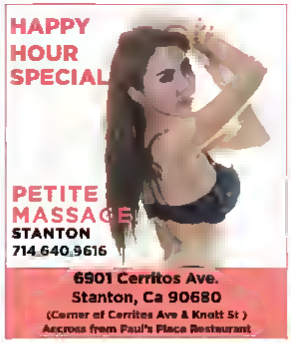
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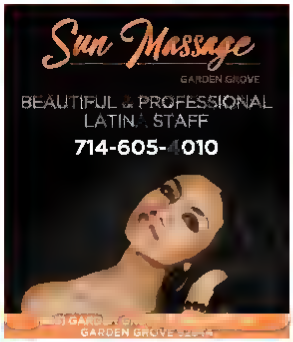
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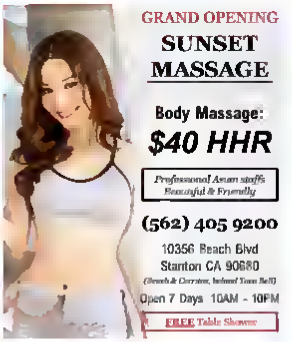
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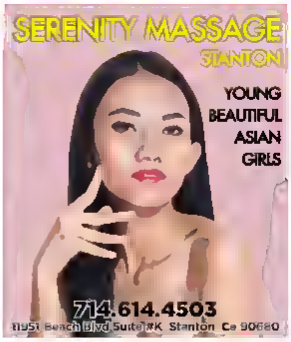
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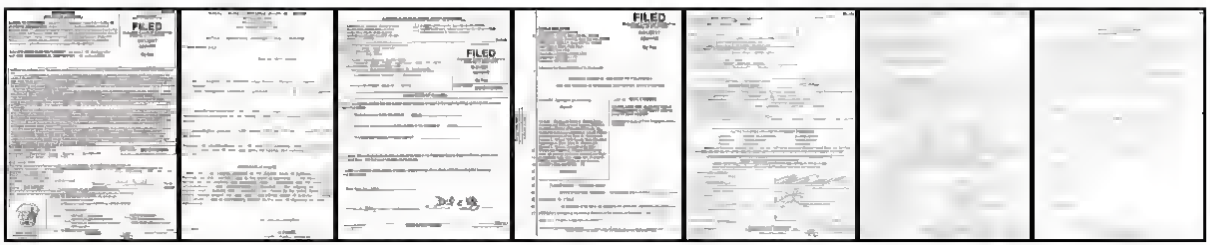

Mischief Night

Anaheim Fall Festival & Halloween Parade began as a way to curb Halloween night

BY TAYLOR HAMBY

Damn kids! The annual Anaheim Fall Festival & Halloween Parade began in 1924 as a response to the midnight mayhem brewed up by kids on what was known as mischief night almost a century ago in Orange County. "Halloween wasn't this trick-or-treat holiday we know today," explains co-organizer Kevin Kidney in a promotional video for the annual festival he helped bring back from the grave with his partner Jody Daily and a team of local volunteers. "It was kind of more of the trick holiday where kids upended fences and soaked windows and all that kind of stuff that people don't do today."

The idea of a parade and party being held to curb childhood Halloween pranks wasn't unique; similar efforts were made in cities such as Huntington Beach, a place historically known for riots and other instances of melees and mayhem. An article in the *Santa Ana Register* from Oct. 23, 1924, titled "Give Party at Beach City to Keep Young People From Streets and Usual Pranks," blamed Boy Scouts as the root of the town's seaside seasonal tomfoolery. "Local Boy Scouts will not be in trouble over the tearing down of gate posts, the running away with wagons, or any other Halloween prank," the article declared, citing local Scoutmaster C. E. Morris' Scout's honor. "Scouts of the three troops here have given their promise that if given a good party, they would lay off the usual 'kid' stunts," Morris said.

"Back then, [Halloween-night pranking] was a big problem," says Kidney, "so the City Council and some of the neighborhood shops decided, 'Let's try to turn that energy into something more productive and fun.' So they started the Anaheim Halloween Festival."

According to newspaper accounts, the new festival began on Oct. 30, 1924, and featured a costume contest, a mutt parade, street dancing, and an evening parade led by Grand Marshals and baseball legends Babe Ruth and Walter Johnson. (The Bambino and Barney were in town for a Halloween-day charity baseball game at nearby Brea Bowl featuring fellow Hall of Famer Sam Crawford.)

The parade eventually became the star of the annual festival. Local businesses would sponsor and build floats that were required to be at least 50 percent Halloween themed, but that other 50 percent allowed imaginations to run wild. Fan favorites included the Flying Sasser, a "float" that debuted in 1953 and was made by neighborhood children that was a flying saucer placed over a covered wagon with a young man's head popping out the top as he was pulled along by a wagon's handle, and the 1951 Rocket Witch float, which featured a Space Age witch riding not a broom, but rather a giant skyward-pointing phallic rocket.

COURTESY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY ARCHIVES

The parade grew to such a spectacle that the *LA Times* once heralded it as the "biggest Halloween parade in the nation," with reports of 150,000 spectators on the sidelines, it was televised live on KTLA in the late 1960s.

However, "as the city of Anaheim began to experience unprecedented urban growth," according to the Anaheim Fall Festival, "the small-town feeling began to wane, and by the 1980s the parade seemed to be in danger of becoming a nostalgic relic of the past."

Then, in 2013, Kidney and Daily—both Disney artists and Anaheim residents—became inspired to revive the tradition. They gathered fellow artists and community members to begin building vintage-style floats. Thanks to the efforts of Kidney, Daily and volunteer Kathy Couture—as well as their crackerjack team of volunteer community artists, builders, and supportive fellow retro-heads and nostalgia nerds—the Rocket Witch (played by Anaheim rockabilly songstress Amber Foxx) rides again!

Under their care, the Anaheim Fall Festival & Halloween Parade has risen from the grave.

"Our [event] is really the old-fashioned Halloween we remember from when we were grade-school kids," says Kidney. "It's got a very vintage look to it."

Though the art and floats of the festival are heavily vintage-inspired, they also have a modern twist. Fundraisers include retro-style tattoos from Orange artists Show Pigeon, a backyard rockabilly barbecue led this year by Anaheim rockabilly icon Big Sandy, and a retro Halloween slideshow led by the uproarious and hilarious Charles Phoenix, the Ambassador to Americana ("I knoooowwwwww!")

"It just kind of started as this little neighborhood volunteer group," explains co-organizer Couture via the registered 501c nonprofit organization's website. "We're all volunteers, and we love to come together and spend time. It's kind of the best thing about the parade. The parade happens one day a year, but volunteering can take place 365 days a year."

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ANAHEIM FALL FESTIVAL & HALLOWEEN PARADE

on the Center Street Promenade, between Harbor and Anaheim boulevards, Anaheim, www.anaheimfallfestival.org. Sat. Festival, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., parade (down Broadway, across Harbor and Anaheim boulevards, then to the Center Street Promenade), 6 p.m. Free. Those interested in helping to keep the spook-tacular fall event rolling can sponsor, volunteer, attend one of the year round fundraisers, purchase sweet retro Halloween swag on the online store and even straight-up donate via PayPal at the festival website.

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